

ASPINALL'S

A LINE IN "THE QUEEN" COPY.

I FIND ASPINALL'S GOLD PAINT THE BEST. It is neither more troublesome to use, nor the powder is in one bottle and the liquid in another, but it retains its colour far better than any of those made up in one bottle, and is more like gold leaf than any that have tried.

ENAMEL.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

THIRD EDITION.  
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE.  
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

THE HAITIAN CONSPIRATORS.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)  
New York, January 9.—The Herald today states that the Haitian revolutionists in New York have secured an armoured warship, fully equipped, of 2,000 tons burden, with which they intend attacking, and, if possible, capturing Port Au Prince. The Haitian Minister at Washington has laid the facts before Mr. Blaine, and begs the United States Government to use its powers to prevent the warship sailing.

CANADIAN SCANDALS.

(DALETEL'S TELEGRAM.)  
OTTAWA, January 7.—Judge Ross charged the grand jury this morning. There are four indictments against Thomas McGroarty and Nicholas Connolly, and two each against Patrick Larkin and Michael Connolly. Action has been entered by the Exchequer to recover from Mr. Bromskill, the former superintendent of the stationery department, the sum of £6000, alleged to have been paid him unlawfully.

FIGHT WITH MURDERERS IN AMERICA.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)  
New York, January 8.—Further desperate fighting in connection with the disputes of the rival factions at Arkalon, in Kansas, occurred yesterday. The sheriff was killed, when upon the State troops were called out. The troops started in pursuit of the ambush party, and soon overtook them. A regular battle ensued, both sides fighting with great determination, and using shot guns, revolvers, and other weapons. Finally the murderers began slowly to retreat, but a running fight was maintained for four miles. Four of the murderers were killed, but the gang holds together, for its members are desperate knowing that no quarter will be given them, so that further fighting is certain.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

TERRIBLE CYCLONE IN AMERICA.

(Loss of Life.)  
New York, January 7.—A cyclone swept over Georgia yesterday, causing immense destruction in many places. At Fayetteville, Georgia, dwelling houses and public buildings were demoli ed or seriously damaged, and several persons were killed. The lower part of one building, which contained a family of six persons, was wrecked and the inmates were afterwards found among the ruins, all injured. After the cyclone had passed, the dead body of a negro child was found, and it is surmised that it had been carried some distance, for the persons to whom the child belonged could not be discovered. Altogether thirty residences, the public academy, and large warehouses were demolished, while other buildings suffered much injury. The cyclone had disastrous effects also in the vicinity of Millen, and other places. Full reports have not yet been received from these districts, but it is known that much damage to property has been done.

EARTHQUAKE IN AMERICA.

New York, January 7.—Slight shocks of earthquake were felt at Rochester, New York, yesterday.

FIGHTING IN BURMAH.

Rangoon, January 7.—Major Yule's column has carried Sagon by assault after a sharp fight, in which the Taubw, was taken prisoner. The Kachins lost fourteen killed and two wounded. On the British side two of the Devonshire Regiment and one gunner were killed, and one sapper and one Ghurka wounded.

THE SENTENCES ON ENGLISHMEN IN FRANCE.

Paris, January 7.—Acting by the advice of his friends, Mr. Bedell, the Englishman of Coventry, who was condemned to three months' imprisonment at St. Etienne on the charge of espionage, has decided not to appeal against the sentence to the Higher Court, which has the power of increasing as well as reducing the sentence passed by the lower tribunal. John Cooper, who was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, has looked an appeal.

Mr. Cramp, of Coventry, has received a letter from Mr. Ottley, the British Vice Consul at Lyons, stating that the two men, Cooper and Bedell, will have to pay the costs of the trial. They are consolidators for the costs, and if one does not pay, the other can come on the other. Bedell's sentence is much the shorter, and he may be called upon to deposit some guarantee before his final release.

MR. GLADSTONE.

BLAISETT, January 7.—M. Leon Say has arrived here from Paris in order to invite Mr. Gladstone to spend two days with him at Pau, and will leave Saturday next, in company with the right honourable gentleman, for that place. Mr. Gladstone, who is in excellent health, and is delighted with his visit here, will leave Pau on Tuesday for Valscure, travelling by way of Toulouse and Nimes.

THE REVENUE OF FRANCE.

PARIS, January 7.—The revenue returns for December show a surplus of 8,882,000 francs over the Budget estimate, and an increase of 5,457,940 francs, as compared with the corresponding month of 1890.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY IN PERSIA.

TEHRAN, January 7.—Yielding to the popular agitation, the Persian Government has now cancelled the monopoly of the tobacco export held by the Tobacco Corporation, and the latter has handed to the Gov ernment a document in which it formally expresses its acquiescence in the complete abolition of any monopoly it previously held, and a call upon the merchants to take back their tobacco which they sold to the corporation. Copies of this document will be publicly placarded to-day. The firing upon the mob assembled before the Shah on Monday last has had a marked effect, and it is hoped that there will be no further cause for anxiety. The Shah, in order to restore confidence, intends to go out shooting to-day. A distinct division has manifested itself among the priests regarding the use of tobacco. One party advocates

# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

LONDON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1892.

MILFORD LANE; STRAND.—No. 535.

ASK FOR  
**DR. RIDGE'S PATENT COOKED FOOD.**  
THE PERFECT FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS.

CAUTION.

DR. RIDGE'S PATENT COOKED FOOD.  
All the genuine Packets and  
Canisters are  
bearing the word  
DR. RIDGE'S PATENT  
COOKED FOOD,  
and are to be  
brought to me, so that none  
of my food may be deceived or imitated.  
DR. RIDGE'S PATENT COOKED FOOD.  
Prepared at  
ROYAL FOOD MILLS, LONDON  
and Sold Retail by all leading Chemists and Druggists  
throughout the Kingdom.

ALLEGED ANARCHIST PLOT. ARRESTS IN LONDON AND WALSALL.

MURDEROUS CASE.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, Joseph Thomas Deakin, 25, described as a clerk, of Walsall, Staffordshire, was charged with being in the unlawful possession of a cigar-box containing a bottle of white fluid, and not giving a satisfactory account of the same.—Det.-insp. Quina, of Scotland Yard, deposed that at 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening last he and some other detective officers were waiting at the police station in the Tottenham Court-road, when the prisoner passed with a parcel under his arm. The witness stopped him, and taking the parcel from him found it to be a cigar-box, in which was a bottle of liquid labelled "Chloroform." When charged, he said that a bottle of chloroform was a thing that any man might have with him, and described himself as a clerk in the London and North-Western Railway Company's offices at Albion. When searched, he was found to be in possession of an Anarchist journal, a season ticket between Wales and Albion, and a ticket from London to Walsall. In reply to the magistrate, the prisoner said he would like to have a solicitor to defend him, and asked to be allowed bail.—Mr. Newton remanded Deakin for a week, refusing bail.

THE MOVEMENT IN WALSALL.

Importance is lent to the above case by the following message received from Walsall:—Emily Harris, formerly a servant in the employ of the defendants, said that for a period of nine months the boy was locked in the attic, and his food, which consisted of dry bread and cold potatoes and the leavings from off the other children's plates, was taken up to him on a piece of paper. Mrs. Armitstead had called him a filthy brute, and on two or three occasions made him enter the coal-cellars to eat some bread.—Dr. A. C. N. Goldney described the condition of the room as unfit for habitation, the stench being unbearable.—Emily Harris, recalled, stated that after the society's officer had left the house Mrs. Armitstead bathed the boy, gave him a beef-steak pie, and burnt the mattress.—Elizabeth Brine deposed that in July last she was a nurse girl in the employ of the defendants. On one occasion she went into the coal-cellars for some coals, and found the boy standing there. She had seen him there several times.—Mr. Hutton: Do you know who put him there? Mrs. Armitstead did.—How long did he remain there? About an hour.—For the defence Dr. E. T. Smith was called. He said he had examined the boy and found him fairly well nourished. There was no emaciation.—Mr. Bell: If the child was

FED EXCLUSIVELY UPON BREAD AND POTATOES.

would he be in the state in which you found him? I should say not, although potatoes and a morsel—Misses or Grindare Armitstead, a daughter of the defendant, denied categorically the statements which had been made. She denied that the boy was fed exclusively on bread and potatoes. He was fed in the same way as the other children.—Mr. Bell next called the boy himself to give evidence. He was well clothed and looked fairly well. In reply to the magistrate he stated that he had never been to school. He was asked if he had said his prayers, but he looked towards Mrs. Armitstead and made no reply.—Mrs. Armitstead said the boy knew "Gentle Jesus."—The magistrate refused to accept the evidence of the boy, who then stood down.—Mr. Montagu Williams, in delivering judgment, said he had given in the case the greatest consideration, and, although he had kept his mind open until then, he could not find any palliating circumstance. It was a case of the grossest possible cruelty, but for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, that poor wretched little boy might still have been dragging out the miserable existence which he had led for months in that house. He had also tried to see if there was any distinction between the man and the woman, and again he failed to see any. He had been in a great many cases of this kind, and cases in which death had resulted, but he did not remember any worse case than this. There was absolutely no answer to the facts. Witness after witness was called on the part of the prosecution, and what did they say? That for months, from time to time, the child was locked up in the garret unable to get out for the common necessities and wants of humanity, lying there reeking in the filth and dirt and misery to which the defendants condemned him. He could not help expressing his astonishment that women should have allowed this to go on under their eyes day after day and have made no public complaint about it. The female defendant had taken this illegitimate child of her own husband, born since her marriage, into her home, and behaved to it in the manner described in the evidence. As for the man, for reasons of economy or otherwise, certainly not out of affection, he took the child home, and he knew how it was suffering. It was really an outrage upon humanity, and he should not be discharging his duty if he did not inflict the full penalty of the law. He committed them each to prison for three months, with hard labour.—Notice of appeal was given.

THE ACTION OF THE POLICE.

It is understood that Chief-insp. Littlechild, of Scotland Yard, is carefully considering information which has been laid before him respecting the supposed conspiracy for the manufacture of explosive bombs for Anarchical purposes. He has in his possession written reports on the subject, and several detectives are actively making inquiries in the country into the recent movements of the suspected persons. It appears to be thought that an Anarchist conspiracy has been discovered at Walsall, but at present there is little more than circumstances of a suspicious character to connect the man Deakin who was arrested in London with the discovery made in the country. It has not yet been definitely ascertained whether the fluid found in his possession was of an explosive character. The case against the persons arrested at Walsall will be prosecuted in that town, and Deakin, who is connected with Albion, near Walsall, will be brought up at Marlborough-street Police Court again on Thursday next. The police expect to be able to ascertain in the meantime whether he is in any way associated with the supposed conspiracy at Walsall.

THE FIFTY-TWO DAYS FAST AT THE AQUARIUM.

At a quarter to 11 on Friday night Succi's fifty-two days fasting experiment at the Westminster Aquarium had lasted 573 hours, during the whole of which time he has faithfully fulfilled the conditions of the experiment. Though still in fairly good health and strength, Succi confesses to some little anxiety regarding the somewhat abnormal loss of weight which occurs almost daily. Comparing his condition in that respect with the fifty days fast of Alexander Jacques in the summer, it is worthy of note that Succi has already lost 23lb in twenty-three days, or within 3lb of the amount lost by Jacques in the whole time. Apart from the continued irritation, the pain caused by the presence of a large boil on the neck, Succi appears well, and expresses confidence in his ability to complete the task he has undertaken.

ACCIDENT TO "FATHER CHRISTMAS."

One of London's most popular preachers—the Rev. E. A. Stuart, M.A., Vicar of St. James's, Holloway—has sustained an unfortunate accident under peculiar circumstances. He had garbed himself in the guise of "Father Christmas" at a children's party, and the flowing beard which befits the character accidentally caught fire, seriously injuring his face and eyes. It is stated that he will be confined to bed for some time, much to the disappointment of the large congregations attending his Thursday eve services at Bow Church. His progress towards convalescence is quite satisfactory.

TERRIBLE MINING DISASTER. OVER 200 LIVES LOST.

DEATH OF THE KHEDIVE. A VICTIM TO INFLUENZA.

A terrible disaster occurred on Thursday in a mine near Kroba, in Indian territory. At 5 o'clock in the evening, just before the day shift had emerged for supper from shaft 5 of the Gege Coal and Mining Company, smoke was seen to escape from the mouth of the single shaft, and a loud report, like rolling thunder, followed. It was evident that an explosion had occurred in the heart of the mine. The men at the pit-head sounded the alarm, and prepared to send a rescue party down, but they found the mouth of the shaft closed with wreckage. It is stated that there were over 350 men in the mine at the time of the explosion. Most of these, belonging to the day shift, were waiting for the cage to take them out, and the foot of the shaft is said to be literally a mass of human bodies. Eighty-five men escaped by the old entry and forty-two were saved by the shaft. Most of these, however, are much burned and bruised. The explosion was caused by the firing of a shot when there was gas in the mine. The officials of the Osage Company at St. Louis have received a despatch from Kroba stating that 145 men have been rescued alive, though many are badly injured. A telegram received by Reuters on Saturday says that sixty bodies have been recovered. Twenty-five miners have since died. The number of men entombed is now estimated at 218. A large number of doctors from Kroba and 300 miners from the neighbouring county have gone to the scene of the disaster, to relieve those who, since Thursday, have been carrying on the work of rescue without interruption. When the explosion occurred six of the day shift had been hoisted. Immediately after the explosion a tongue of flame shot out of the shaft to a height of 100 feet from the ground. The report was so great that the inhabitants of the mining towns within an area of five miles imagined that an earthquake had taken place. Heartrending scenes are witnessed at the mouth of the shaft, where the wives and families of the entombed miners are waiting in terrible suspense. The search is being actively continued. Most of the dead bodies hitherto recovered are terribly mutilated as to have lost all resemblance to human beings. There is no fire in the mine, and the rescuers hope that many of the men are still alive, for they can hear sounds of distant shouting. Six boys, who were tending the ventilating fan, were killed outright by the explosion. The mine is one of the largest in the Indian territory, and with others supplies nearly all the coal consumed in Texas. Forty or fifty trackloads are despatched daily, and the stoppage of work will consequently cause almost a coal famine in Texas and the Southern Indian territory.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. HASTINGS, M.P.

Mr. George Wooldrige Hastings, M.P. for East Worcestershire, was again brought up before Sir John Bridge at Bow-street on Friday, charged under the 4th Sect. of the Explosives Act, 1874, with being concerned with others in possessing with having in their possession or under their control certain explosive substances under circumstances as to give rise to reasonable suspicion that they did not have them in their possession or under their control for lawful purposes.—The woman, who had been living at the same address as Cailles, was discharged on the application of the chief constable.—The chief constable then stated that he should be able to prove on a future occasion that within the last few months the accused had under their control materials for the purpose of making bombs, and that they were connected with the Anarchical movements. The arrests were made under directions from the authorities in London. He produced a specimen of the bomb, a conical iron shell four or five inches long, and said that in the possession of Charles was found the model (prodig) of a bolt which would fit into a bomb when completed. At present the ends of justice would not be furthered by the production of more evidence on that occasion.—Cailles had protested energetically in French that he had never seen the things until they were shown to him at the police station on the previous night.—The accused were remanded for a week.—The more the matter is looked into (says a local correspondent) the more important does the apprehension appear to be.

THE ACCORDION OF PRINCE ABABAS.

The remains of the late Khedive of Egypt, were conveyed, on Friday, by train from the Elouan Palace, where the prince died, to Cairo, and thence to the Abdin Palace.

There the bier lay, while the procession was formed in the great square in front. All the dignitaries of the province, the British authorities, representatives of the Sultan, members of Tewfik Pacha's family and household, and a crowd of wailing women have since died. The bier lay at the square at 2 o'clock, and was escorted to the mosque at Imam Chafee, in a vault beneath which the Khedive's widow is buried. Thousands of people watched the cortège, and all the proceedings were orderly. The Queen and several members of the royal family have sent messages to Sir E. Baring, requesting him to express their sympathy with the Khedive's widow.

THE FUNERAL.

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(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)  
**EXPERIENCES OF A THEATRICAL MANAGER:**  
 THE ADVENTURES OF F. WILSON TRISCOTT.  
 Written by PHILIP HAVARD.

VII.—THE ECCENTRICITIES OF GENIUS.

The independent spirit which animated me on my return from Ireland was by no means characteristic of my conduct on this occasion. With only a few shillings in my pocket, and no prospect of obtaining more, I was in no mood for roughing it, but made tracks for home. I think I felt, and am afraid I looked, very much like a defeated terrier. I know I expected my father would bully me, but he preserved a sullen, contemptuous silence, merely informing me, through my mother, that I must go to his office and stick closely to business for the future.

I deemed it expedient not to discuss the matter, but to yield with a good grace. Accordingly, I betook myself to the office, and threw as much energy into the work as temperament and circumstances would permit.

My father, I found, was very much occupied. He was seeking civic honours, so that a great part of his time was taken up in interviewing the free and independent electors of the ward which he desired to represent at Guildhall. We all regarded this as a blessing—not the aspiration for civic honour, but the fact that the governor was too busy to worry us.

This sudden change in the freedom of my old life to the dr. routine of office work was exceedinglyosome. Imagine a young fellow of romantic temperament, with a love of art and fire with a great ambition, being compelled to settle down to the matter-of-fact, dry-as-dust details of City life. The men with whom I was compelled to associate, not only in the office, but during luncheon time and afterwards at home, had no sympathy whatever with my aspirations. They were of the Philistine, bourgeois order, the sworn enemies of art and culture, their great aim being to get on in the world, and by getting on, of course, they meant making money. There was nothing I despised more at this time than money and this was their god. To admire anything until they realised what it would be likely to fetch on the market was altogether foreign to their nature.

They called themselves practical men. Closing their eyes to the beauties of earth and sky, refusing to wander in the sunny places and shadowy shades of romance, or to roam with our greater dramatists into that still more wondrous region, the soul of man, with its sublime heights of goodness and amazing mirages of evil, they grollled in the dust and seemed anxious to compel every one else to wallow with them in the mire. And they called themselves practical business men. How heartily did I despise their aims! How sincerely did I cry out against them. I wrote page after page of bitter invective and caustic satire, which, however, I managed at length to boil down into this one pregnant phrase—Now Barabbas was a business man.

I hurled these words at them from time to time, in various tones, applying every shade of meaning I could conceive, but they were too thick-skinned to take offence. They simply laughed and cried "Good old Barabbas."

It has just occurred to me that the boys were good-humoured and not thick skinned. I am constantly finding now that I was very prone to mis-judge people at this period, but as it seemed to me at the time, I must allow the former paragraph to stand. I do not pretend to say, though, that all things took place in the order which they are set down. For instance, I have been giving now the effects of several weeks' reflections.

One morning, about four days after my return to office work, I was seated at my desk going through the day's letters, when I heard a man, with a strong theatrical burr and a pronounced Scotch accent, intimating to one of the clerks that he wished to see my father on very particular private business. Turning stealthily around I saw that the individual was none other than our late heavy lead—Mr. Gordon, and he was accompanied by four other members of the same company. Fortunately before any of them had time to recognise me they were shown into my father's private office. For a second or two my heart seemed to stand still, but I soon decided what to do. Descending quickly from the high stool on which I was perched, I went to the head clerk and said—

"I think that I—with such an accent on the personal pronoun as might induce a stranger to think that I was at least a junior partner in the firm." "I think that I had better run over to the Haymarket Stores to see Mr. Sutton about this matter."

"Oh, ah," the head clerk replied, taking the letter from my hand and glancing it over, surprised, doubtless, at the sudden interest I was manifesting in business matters. "Oh, ah, very well, Mr. Fred."

I fancy he was still further surprised at the alacrity I displayed, for it didn't take me long to get outside that office. I tore down Wood-street and Cheapside at breakneck pace, fearing lest any one should be sent to call me back. On boarding an omnibus at the corner of St. Paul's Churchyard I felt a little more at ease, though I wondered inwardly what would be the outcome of that interview.

My business at the stores being settled, I adjourned with Mr. Burton to lunch at The Cock, on Jermyn-street, where he introduced me to some other men, excellent types of the non-Philistine commercial man, amongst them being Mr. William Lloyd, a very able vocalist, and Mr. Edward Davis, an exceedingly well-informed, cultured man. Both these gentlemen had show-rooms in the neighbourhood of Holborn Viaduct, and they were good enough to give me an open invitation to call any Tuesday or Friday, these being the days on which they were at home in their show-rooms. We spent a very enjoyable hour together discussing chiefly things musical and dramatic, while Mr. Davis recounted some of his experiences in China, giving a graphic sketch of the Chinese theatre and drama, but dwelling principally upon his voyage from Hong Kong to New York with Mr. Charles Davis's theatrical

troops. It was a new experience for me to meet in commercial circles men of such keen artistic susceptibilities, and I determined to cultivate their acquaintance.

When we broke up my heart sank within me as I thought of returning to the office, but remembering that the governor had a meeting to attend, I timed matters so that I should arrive after his departure. Meanwhile, to kill time and in the hope of hearing something of Mr. Heywood's whereabouts, I sauntered down the Strand. I had no idea that my name had preceded me, but such was the case. Every one knew all about the smash up; there were various versions of the affair, but they agreed in this—the company had been swindled. The members of the company met with the sympathy of the crowd, but I was regarded by most as neither fish nor fowl, but the natural enemy of the actor—because I was a manager and because I was an actor. Some of the boys told each other loud enough for me to hear that "if these millionaire fools would confine themselves upon the profession and deprive the trained actor of his livelihood, then it served them jolly well right if they had to pay through the nose for their vanity; they couldn't blame Heywood; it was business, and all is fair in love and business." These sentiments, however, were not unanimously endorsed. A few fellows declared that I had been very badly treated, and that such men as Heywood were a disgrace to the profession; but they warned me that it would be useless to tell him, for even if I found him I could get nothing out of so crafty a knave. I had to stand a lot of good-humoured chaff; several men volunteered their services for twenty weeks certain to appear as lions, tigers, and elephants, should I even contemplate taking out a managerie.

My arrival at the office was the signal for a general outburst of laughter; this fact alone was sufficient proof that the governor was out. I was told that a very amusing scene had taken place. My father mistook Mr. Gordon and his colleagues for ratemakers of the ward which he desired to represent, and consequently treated them with the greatest courtesy, bringing out the fatted calf—or rather a good plump cake and a bottle of whisky—bidding them eat, drink, and be merry. They did so, and must have thought him an exceedingly amiable gentleman; but I fancy their opinion underwent a slight change when he became aware of the true nature of their business. It is said that he stamped and raved and swore and threatened to have them all sent to prison, but this was useless, for Mr. Gordon and the others produced documents, duly stamped and signed by me engaging them at fixed salaries for twenty weeks certain. The governor then declared that he would not be responsible for my mad freak, and that such a course was particularly undesirable for the son of a man who aspired to civic honours, and was proud of his commercial integrity. Finally, a compromise was arrived at, my father paying to each person a sum amount equal to fortnight's salary.

Next morning I had a very bad quarter of an hour with the governor. He unrolled the whole of his bottled-up wrath and poured the lot over me. In clear, concise unmistakable Saxon he expressed his opinion of my peccadilloes, and intimated that the money I had squandered would be deducted at compound interest, out of my patrimony. I felt very keenly this lack of sympathy, and smarted under the cruel knockdown blows I was receiving. Truly, it seemed to me, the times were out of joint; I hardly knew what I should have done at this period were it not for my friend, Mr. Davis. His sympathetic and kindly guidance have left a marked impression upon my character. Well do I remember how he led me to see that an artistic career is beset with difficulties of an almost insurmountable nature, except to men of extraordinary application, whereas in commercial pursuits a man of very ordinary ability, who would starve as an artist, may make a very comfortable livelihood, possibly a fortune. It did not occur to me then, for he treated the matter with delicate generalisation, that he regarded me as a fellow of very ordinary ability, and he was right. I declared my intention of succeeding as an actor in spite of all odds and so endeavoured to become a fellow of extraordinary application, but believing that I was a man of extraordinary natural ability my application was not sufficiently intense. I did not train myself to exercise the perceptive faculties sufficiently, while my reflections, I fear, were of a querelle and superficial nature. I studied, however, a number of parts and visited the various metropolitan theatres with as much of the student spirit as I could muster.

We spent some very enjoyable evenings at Mr. Burton's comfortable suburban home, where I was enabled to gratify my vanity and amuse the company by giving imitations of Irving and Wilson Barrett. I always went home after these pleasant evenings on very good terms with myself, for appreciative friends flattered and humoured me to the top of my bent. Some of them said that I possessed all the eccentricities of genius, and I felt highly complimented, for I did not perceive then that the accent was on the "eccentricities" not on the "genius." I saw in the happy phrase a magic cloak which not only covered me from tip to toe, but transformed my foibles and vanities into rarest graces.

Mr. Davis introduced me to that able actor the late Mr. John Maclean, and I was fortunate enough to get him to give me a course of lessons, the value of which I cannot possibly overestimate. Having spent about six months in my father's office I had grown exceedingly weary of the drudgery. The friction was too great for me. Fancying myself a genius, I felt that I was wasting my keen edge on work which could be better done by a blunter instrument. I thought I was very much like a man attempting to cut down an oak with a razor, so I determined to quit my unconscious employment once again and for ever.

In vain did my friends advise me to be patient and discreet. Believing impotency to be one of the eccentricities of genius I gave my father a piece of my mind, and amid the painful entreaties of my mother and grandmother I broke away from home, hired a sky galleon in the neighbourhood of

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(To be continued.)

FIRE AT GREENWICH.

At 11 o'clock on Wednesday night the block fuel manufactory of Messrs. Foster, Abbott, and Lomard, Sussex Wharf, Greenwich Marsh, was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was given and pending the arrival of the Fire brigade, the conflagration was attacked by the members of the adjoining Patent Wood Paving Company, who brought into requisition their manual engine and hydrants. By the time the brigade arrived a building 60ft. by 80ft., where the fire originated, was well alight. It was only by strenuous efforts that the firemen were able to subdue within a comparatively short time a blazing mass of from 450 to 500 tons of coal stored in the building. The flames next turned to the adjacent block fuel manufactory, a building some 80ft. square, which contained, in addition to great stacks of the article ready for use, the tools of the society and being put in store of all the surrounding circumstances. Consult a solicitor.

S. A. D.—You must either file a writ before the court, or send a notice of your long string of actions.

OXFORD.—It is not libelous, but if you could show monetary damage, you might possibly obtain damages.

D. G.—Send a notice of your long string of actions.

E. V. D.—We you should learn the trade.

Printed directions would be of little use.

T. H.—It can be done by a notary, which must be executed in the same manner as the will itself.

E. H.—Quite impossible to say without seeing the title of the society and being put in store of all the surrounding circumstances.

W. E.—You must either file a writ before the court, or send a notice of your long string of actions.

S. A. D.—You must either file a writ before the court, or send a notice of your long string of actions.

G. H.—It can be done by a notary, which must be executed in the same manner as the will itself.

E. H.—You might try the will or power of attorney.

A. J.—This is a trading question into which we do not enter.

LONDON.—There are many sorts of black waterproof cases. You do not give any clue as to what particular mode is used.

E. H.—It is quite known "brown" after having it only a short time, it would appear to be of little value.

J. M.—Miscellaneous.

The name and address of the concern are required in all cases, and a copy of the publication with a note as to whether or not it is a newspaper.

E. H.—We cannot suggest how to make these are over.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[Please every care will be taken to ensure the accuracy of reports, but we cannot accept any responsibility for intentional errors. Questions requiring a reply should be addressed to the editor, and the name and address of the correspondent should be given. The following questions will be answered in a day or two.]

EDGWARE-ROAD AND INVOKED.

Providence, Fortune, and the Fates to favour genius in its low estate.

(To be continued.)

WILLIAM H. H.—

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)  
A MEAN WHITE.  
BY STANLEY J. WEYMAN.

A man, an Englishman, sat on one of the seats in the Esbekish Gardens at Cairo. His chin was sunk on his breast, his hands were thrust deep into his pockets. The gay world of Cairo—it was the month of February, and the height of the season in the capital of Egypt—drove this way and that before his eyes, running footmen, gay with gold lace and tasseled capes panting behind the carriages; but the man never looked up—showed no curiosity. He had nothing in common with the gay world. His pockets were empty; his hat was battered, his boots were cracked. He was dusty, dishevelled, disreputable, down-looking. More, his heart was sick. He scowled at the passing natives, who eyed him inquisitively, and flung a curse at the blind man who sought hockeysheesh of him.

To be poor at home is bad. But to be poor abroad, to be out at elbows and heels in a country where all men with white faces keep themselves haughtily apart—to be a man white, in fact whether it be in the streets of Charleston, or Delhi, or Cairo, a thousand times worse. When a man comes to that he is not far from perdition; his self-respect, if by chance he have any left, will not last long, and when that is gone there will be tempters enough at his elbow—tempters with black faces, delighted to have one of the dominant race at their mercy.

The man on the seat felt all this, and felt desperately miserable and forlorn. He was at his wits' end. At home there are workhouses, and a man may sneak into one and sneak out again unrecognised, and still hold up his head. But abroad there is only the consul's. To go to the consul's office and stand among the Cook's tourists, and the fashionable leaving cards and wanting this or that done; to go and be questioned and looked over curiously, was just what this man could not face. Alone, without a half-penny, or a lodgings, he shrank from that, the only hope which presented itself to him. And presently he rose and wandered away.

Into the bazaar quarter first, though the light in the narrow robbing alleys was beginning to fail, and the streak of hot sunshine, which at noon had flashed down into the brass-worker's corner and helped to sell his wares, was long gone. The tiny shops and the struggling crowd about them, a crowd in which men, and women, and donkeys were inextricably mixed up, looked tawdry where they did not look mean and dreary. The tourist, suddenly disenchanted, his Aladdin's lamp gone out, sniffed the tainted air and hurried home. The traders began to put on their slippers and shut their shops. The Englishman wandered on, glaring about him savagely.

At home, cast on the streets without money or money's worth he would have known what to do. He would have known some shelter where he could sleep gratis. Here he knew nothing and no one. He shrank from the dark faces and gleaming eyes, which, as he prowled alone, gazed at him curiously, yet distrustfully. He shrank still more from the holes and corners where their poor consorted.

He emerged presently near the foot of the citadel. The fading light showed him that he stood on the verge of that vast waste of dust and potsherds which surrounds the tombs of the caliphs and gives to this side of Cairo an infernally arid and desolate, as of a scene in Dante's Inferno. He looked across the dreary expanse, broken by huge an-hapses or broken domes, and turned back shuddering. As he turned he almost touched a native who had been walking close upon his heels.

The Englishman glanced at the other, and in a moment it occurred to him that it was not the first time he had seen the man, who wore a fez, and the loose jacket and baggy trousers of a dragonian, but all slightly the worse for wear and of sombre materials. Annoyed, he stopped and looked again, his temper rising. Yes, he remembered seeing the man in the Esbekish Gardens, and again in the bazaar. "Curse you! why are you following me?" he said savagely, returning and raising his hand with a threatening gesture.

The Cairene retreated, cringing slightly. "No offence," he muttered in English, his soft large eyes on the other's face. "I thought you wanted money, effendi." The Englishman, exclaiming with a fierce laugh. "So I do. I suppose you are here to offer me some. Begone, you tout!" he added, raising his voice. "It is your infernal gambling tables have brought me to this. Do you hear, go!"

"Have patience," the native answered, this time holding his ground. "I do bring you money. See. It is yours if you like to take it."

He held out a half sovereign. The Englishman took it incredulously, bit it, felt it. "Yes, it is good," he said bluntly, putting it in his pocket. "A free gift, I suppose." He continued with a bitter laugh. "What do you want? a decoy duck?"

"No," the man answered promptly, approaching with more confidence.

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"Twenty pounds," replied the Englishman contemptuously.

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The white man—we may call him Johnstone, though that was not his name—whistled. "The condition?" he said.

"That you meet me to-morrow night in a place I shall name," replied the other, "and beat my service for an hour."

Johnstone whistled again. "I thought it was pitch and toss," he said, drearily. "It seems it is manslaughter."

The dark man shook his head. "No," he answered seriously. "Not at all. I want you to sign a paper, effendi, that is all."

"Oh, forgery," Johnstone said. "I see. And the price twenty pounds?"

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"Afterwards," the Egyptian answered, shaking his head.

"No, half first, half afterwards."

"Good. You meet me at the old fountain in the Barkukia quarter at 9 to-morrow night, then, effendi. Do you know the place?"

"Yes, effendi!" replied the Englishman in mockery, as much at his own expense as at the other's. "I will be there. And so good night, effendi—Satan, devil, or whatever you are!"

The last words he muttered to himself as he strode away fingered the half-sovereign in his pocket. The intervention seemed almost miraculous. He had nothing in common with the gay world. His pockets were empty; his hat was battered, his boots were cracked. He was dusty, dishevelled, disreputable, down-looking. More, his heart was sick. He scowled at the passing natives, who eyed him inquisitively, and flung a curse at the blind man who sought hockeysheesh of him.

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## THE THEATRES.

## LYCEUM.

Although the master of the Lyceum stands elected, alike by his fellow-players and the public, as the premier actor of the English stage the world over, it is certain that his histrio-nic ability is even transcended by the supremacy attained by him as a producer of the drama in its highest development. In this respect the crowning achievement not only of his own management but of all others, whether contemporary or preceding it, is now seen in the revival of "Henry VIII.," giving as it does the most magnificent series of pageants ever presented to the astonished view across the footlights. The stately public shows with which the second Tudor monarch was no less able than willing to indulge himself and his subjects, by squandering the hoards left behind him in the royal exchequer by that royal miser, his father, are seen faithfully reproduced, with a corresponding lavish outpour from the Lyceum treasury. This sumptuous spectacular display, for which, as Pepys and other chroniclers have recorded, the play was originally designed, is used by Mr. Irving to place before the spectator by means of every available accessory supplied by the combined arts of poetry, painting, music, archaeology, and acting, living portraits of history, realising in the best and fullest sense the shrewd old saying that "Pictures are the books of the people." As pictures, therefore, to which dramatic action is subservient, this production should be viewed, and is accordingly commented upon. The scene to the artistic eye throughout this rare historic panorama likely to command itself as most picturesque is the one which is least gorgeous—the view from the Surrey side of Westminster stairs of the opposite bank of the river, with the buildings of old London rising above it from the thoroughfare which still retains its name of the Strand down to Blackfriars. From these stairs, before taking boat on his way to death at the Tower, Buckingham delivers his parting words to the people there assembled to witness his departure. The simple pathos of this scene was intensified by the contrast it gave to the sumptuous magnificence of the hall at York Place, in which Wolsey, amidst his stately environments as cardinal minister, receives in conference the emperor's ambassador, a function which is followed immediately by the merry troop of masques, amongst whom King Harry is discovered by his priestly host just as his amorous glances fall for the first time upon the fresh and fair young Anne Bullen. The morris-dance, during which this incident occurs, regarded as a terpsichorean expression of a distinct feature in old English life, shows its scenic beauty no less than its historical truth, how bait may appeal to the intellect as well as stimulate the fancy. With what faithful subtlety Mr.



Churchman, overtly overbearing and arrogant, but rather as a wily Italian priest, half masking his craft with insidious courtesy, and one bearing, moreover, the aspect of extreme asceticism, whereas it is known that Wolsey got and sustained his fat paunch upon the rich food dispensed by him so prodigiously in his hospitalities. Still estimating his eminent actor as the cardinal by the high standard he himself has heretofore created, it cannot be said that he rose to his greatest opportunity in the play, occurring after Wolsey's fall; not only did the famous speech in which he bids farewell to all his greatness, his patriotic expression, but it was inarticulate. As compared with his worthiest predecessors in the part, Macready and Phelps—both of whom remain vividly in the memory of the present writer—the Wolsey of Mr. Irving, however distinctly powerful as an abstract piece of acting, and though it gave a strong leading, and, therefore, inadequate idea of the meaning of the dramatist—as interpreted by at least two other great actors, still commands respect. As much, however, cannot be said of the King Henry of Mr. Terriss, which had nothing but its magnificient costumes to commend it as a portraiture of the monarch whose semblance made familiar by Holbein, as plainly as his character stands revealed in history. Mr. Terriss's performance was without the least suggestion of the danger, cruelty, and giant force of will masked by bluff humour, constituting the monarch's nature, "sparring no man in his hate;" or the fiercely sensual amorousness, "sparring no woman in his lust." Instead of this strong individuality, it was seen in the greatest Tudor king as acted by Phelps and Mr. Walter Ley—there swaggered before the audience the majestic figure of a richly arrayed Captain Bobadil, with a face no doubt very good looking, but historically meaningless. The thunder of applause which hitherto has followed the unmasking and dismissal of the mighty cardinal by his still mightier king, with the iron words, "Now go to breakfast with what appetite you may," was conspicuous by its absence at the Lyceum. The Queen Katharine of Miss Ellen Terry must in critical courtesy be judged in view of the limitation of her power. The actress, rendered capable by nature, as well as art to give a perfect embodiment of maidens, is ipso facto debarr'd yet awhile in personating matrons. Mrs. Siddons failed as Rosalind and Imogen, and conversely, from the same cause, Miss Terry is but partially successful as Queen Katharine. This lady is set forth in youthful utterance, "egre rex meus et mihi mynus," as shown by the two distinct thrones used for the first time at the presentation of the queen's trial—one occupied, ironically, by Wolsey and Campeius; the other on the same elevated platform, on which sits the king, while his repudiated queen is left to answer the basely contrived impeachment of her legitimacy from more than of State set at the feet not only of her husband, but her judges. The picture with its varied dramatic movement, was one of vivid force, serving as foil to the subdued domestic beauty of the queen's apartment where she receives the sentence of divorce communicated with such mocking semi-omission of courtesy by Wolsey and Campeius. Then follows the royal victim's death-chamber with its vision of angels, perfect in its spiritual solemnities so long as these fair-winged ministrants are seen hovering above the queen through the transparency; but deprived almost of all poetical illusion directly a second seraphic group comes on tripping like pantomime fairies from the wing to stir the queen her-hastily crowned. Far better it would be to indicate this compensatory boon by gesture through the transparency. The sweet and mournfulness of the tableau ends thus ensuing equipoise in the concluding act, where, amid the cheers of the elated citizens seen waving their banners from the overhanging casements of an arrow street in Westminster, the young Queen Anne, in procession, is borne aloft through the throng to her coronation in the church of the Grey Friars, adjoining the royal palace at Greenwich. The sober background of this gothic interior brings into prominence the aristocratic richness of the characteristic costumes worn by the king, his girlish new wife, and the attending priests and courtiers at the christening, after Anne has received the crown of her infant, the Princess Elizabeth, over whom Cranner prophetically pronounces the famous eulogy of the future maiden queen, containing the most subtle piece of courtly flattery ever devised to soothe and stimulate royal pride. So much regarding the pictures of the play, which, in their simple perfection, it needs must be said, far exceed the histrio-nic quality exploited in its presentation. The play is set forth in the folio as "The Famous History of the Life of Henry VIII.," according as historical personages, the characters, as represented, must be tested. That Mr. Irving with his physique could give a perfect bodily presentation of the Spanish but her son, was scarcely to be hoped for, but that the master-actor should go to the other extreme, and make the cardinal, instead of the burly, bloated peasant all known to have been, an artefact aristocrat alike in face and figure, absolutely prevents any possibility of recognising the character individually. The departure does not stop at outward form, but extends to the inward nature of Wolsey, who stands before us in his latest histrio-nic incarnation not at all like what he was and Shakespeare drew him, a downright English

Etna in the distance, and in the middle distance a monastery, on a rocky elevation; in Act II. as "Exterior of a monastery by moonlight, with river and mountain range at the back." More beautiful pictures have rarely been seen, and the artist, Mr. T. E. Ryan, may be congratulated on the production of works which add greatly to his high reputation. When it is also said that Mr. Ivan Caryll conducted admirably that tasteful and piquant costumes were provided, and that—thanks to abundant rehearsal under the stage management of Mr. Gilbert—the excellent orchestra and chorus were quite at home in their respective departments, it will be evident that Mr. Sedgwick had taken all possible pains to merit the triumphant success which attended the first public performance of "The Mountebanks."

The music, composed by the lamented Alfred Cellier, will be generally regarded as his operatic masterpiece, superior in many respects to his "Dorothy," which owed its prolonged success chiefly to the baritone song, "Queen of My Heart," whereas in the new opera there is an abundance of equally charming melody. We must confine ourselves to notices of the more remarkable portions of the score, but among those which we must leave unnoticed there are many which are worthy of the composer, and elicited hearty applause.

In Act I., the chorus, for female voices, "Come all ye Maidens," is deliciously melodic and piquant, admirably harmonised and orchestrated. The duet, "If You Please" (Risotto and Minestrina), is equally well written, and merited the encore which followed. A similar success attended the solo (Atronino) and chorus, "High Jerry, Ho!" with its lively melody, repeated in the finale of the opera. The chorus, in four parts, is excellent. Alfredo's solo, "Decked in fashion trim," is one of the sweetest love-songs that has been produced for a long time past. The melody (in B flat, 6/8 time, Andante) is tenderly melodious; the accompaniment in semiquavers, arpeggi, is excellent, and "Decked in fashion trim" will be prized by tenors. Teresa's ballad, "It's my opinion," with its piquant refrain "I may be wrong" (encored), is a lively song, which also merits popularity. The quartette, "Upon my word, Miss!" and "Fair maid, take pity," are worthy of warm praise; delightfully melodic, and admirably harmonised. Nita's song, "I've a dance that came from France," and her trio (with Bartolo and Pietro), "Those days of old," merit hearty praise. Teresa's song, "I'm only joking," with its laughing refrain, and ballad, "When man in love-sick passion lingers," are charming; especially the latter, which is followed by the sprightly duet (with Alfredo), "Oh, whither, whither?" The "Dancing Trio," sung by Nita, Pietro, and Bartolo, is melodic and characteristic, and deserved the encore which followed. The finale of Act I. is full of variety, including a charming little song for Minestrina, "Come and listen," with an obbligato for violoncello (solo) played in a manner style by M. Preuveneers, who also distinguished himself greatly in the entr'acte which followed Act I. This entr'acte also contains beautiful passages for violin and wind instruments, and from a musical point of view is the finest portion of the score, worthy of the enthusiastic encore which followed the excellent performance of it, under Mr. Ivan Caryll's sympathetic direction.

Act II. contains, for Teresa, the pathetic "Whispering Breeze" (encored), a pathetic but beautiful air, with skilfully written pastoral effects in the orchestration; "Willow, willow, Where's My Love?" and "Hope Lived;" all three worthy of praise, but perhaps too gloomy for the general public. The act opens with the duet for Minestrina and Risotto, "I'd be a young girl if I could," a lively and effective work. The duet, "If our action's stiff and crude" (Nita and Bartolo) won the chief success of the occasion; winning a double encore. It was capably sung by Miss Encore and Mr. Monkhouse, in their respective characters of sibyl and Hamlet. Their imitations of the cramped movements made by clockwork figures were irresistibly comic, and they did justice to the admirable music they had to sing. The duet is certain to become widely popular, and therefore our readers may wish for further particulars respecting it. The melody is in E major, 24 time, and is fresh and piquant, with charming though simple vocal-passages at the end of each verse. The words of the duet are so thoroughly Gilbertian that we are tempted to make this one extract from the libretto.

**DUET—BARTOLO AND NITA.**

Bart. If our action's stiff and crude,  
Do not laugh because it's rude.  
Nita. If our gestures promise larks,  
Do not make unkind remarks.

Bart. Clockwork figures may be found  
Everywhere and all around.

Nita. Ten to one, if we but knew,  
You are clockwork figures too.

Bart. And the motto of the lot,  
Put a penny in the slot!

Nita. Usurer, for money lent,  
Making out his cent, per cent.—  
Bart. Widow plump or maiden rare,  
Dead and dumb to suiter's prayer.

Nita. Tax collector, whom in vain  
You implore to "call again"—  
Bart. Cautious voter, whom you find  
Slow in making up his mind.

Nita. If you'd move them on the spot,  
Put a penny in the slot!

Bart. Bland reporters in the courts,  
Who suppress police reports—  
Nita. Sheriff's yeoman, you're fit,  
Making out the jury list—  
Bart. Stern policeman, tall and sharp,  
Acting all "upon the square"—  
Nita. (Which in words that plainer fall,  
Means that you can square them all)—  
Bart. If you want to move the lot,  
Put a penny in the slot.

It will be admitted that Mr. Gilbert's verases are worthy of his pen, and coupled with Mr. Cellier's capital melody, merit the popularity that will certainly attend the duet, which had better be styled "Put a Penny in the Slot." Amongst other compositions worthy of praise may be mentioned the duet, "If I can Catch this Jolly Jack Patch" and "In Days Gone By," Ultric's song, "When Hungry Cat," the trio, "Opelia was a Dainty Little Maid," and the chorus, without any words but "La, la, la," in madrigal style. These, and other works which might be mentioned, were deservedly applauded, and when the curtain finally descended calls were made for the leading artists, Molles, Ulmar (Teresa), Jenour (Nita), Saunders (Ulrica), and Eva Moore (Minestrina); MM. Robertson (Alfredo), Monkhouse (Bartolo), Lionel Brough (Pietro); Birt (Risotto), Furneaux Cook (Elvino), and Wyatt (Arrosina), who were warmly applauded. They had acquired themselves loyally and well, and good service had been given in minor parts by MM. Playfair, Charles Gilbert, and Porteau. Mr. Horace Sedgwick asked the audience whether the opera was "a success" from all parts of the theatre. He was "struck oil" with "The Mountebanks" which ought to have a longer popularity than that of "Dorothy." Mr. Gilbert, owing to the recent decease of his coadjutor, Mr. Collie,

declined to accept the call made for him by unredacting admirers.

## THE VARIETY THEATRES.

As usual, most of our prominent variety performers commenced their Christmas engagements with a revised repertoire, and many of the novelties produced were of first-rate quality and well in keeping with the cheerfulness that Christmas and the new year supposed to bring. At the London Pavilion, among a crowd of old favourites, were Mona Brunin, who will be remembered, on account of his highly amusing burlesque of a ballet lady; Mr. A. Chevalier, with a capital song of a costermonger bewildered by the immense range of the commodities he offers for sale, from the bonny kipper to the summer-day fire screen; Mr. U. Kaufmann, the agile bicyclist; Mr. Harry Pleas, the mock-melodramatist; and Mr. G. H. Macdermott, the popular lion comique.

Mr. W. Elyot put forth a capital entertainment at the Cambridge, where Mr. G. H. Macdermott appeared with his military supporters in the popular sketch "Our Lads in Red." Emilie Sells and Fritz Young went through their graceful contortions; the windmills supplemented the exertions of Mr. Riddle's followers with their tuneful musical selections; and comic songs were tendered by G. W. Hunter, J. C. Rich, and Pat Rafferty. There were some unusual audiences present during the past week, and in the boisterous countenance of Mr. E. V. Page has been reflected the gay rosettes worn by his supporters in the lounge. There is plenty of amusement to be gained from a visit to the Oxford, where Messrs. Kirk and Bright put forth a lengthy programme of varied attractions. The bewildering wild flights of the Boissets and Zeno are wonderful to behold, and a host of entertainments matter is dispensed by Charles Coborn, with "Time, gentle, please?" Arthur Coombes, a nautical descriptive vocalist; White's comical street arabs; the Ethardo troupe of posturers; the Sisters Brandon, "Babes in the Wood;" and many other prominent artists. The Saturday matinées are now continued as heretofore. The audiences at the Royal, Holborn, have increased to conditions which render it by no means easy for late comers to obtain seating accommodation. The great Cockney comedian Albert Chevalier, is foremost on the programme with his embodiment of the itinerant costermonger. Miss Bessie Bonchill gives a vivacious account of some of the risés of the period she has studied. George Beanchamp has a song about sundry persons who have shuffled off this mortal coil and enabled him to earn a trifle.

The long runs of modern successful plays seem to have made managers all the more considerately wary with reference to what they shall do next; for no sooner is one important novelty launched upon the sea of popularity than the next venture, whether by stealth or design, is sure to leak out. The latest exemplification of this is found in the credible rumour that the lately produced play of "Forgiveness," at the St. James's is to be followed by Mr. Oscar Wynde's new comedy which its author, true to his undeviating characteristic, estimates so magnificently as to cause him, it is said, to decline an offer of £1,000 cash for his piece. Umph! Most dramatists would like personal introduction to the anonymous patron of the drama who made that bid. Like "Dandy Dick," "The Girl-y-Mare" forthcoming at the Comedy, treats of the equine race; which, however, is subversive in the plot by items of the human species. Mr. Charles Hawtrey and Miss Adrienne Darroil are well furnished in the cast, but so far nothing is heard of the pick of the Comedy basket, Miss Lottie Venne. A travesty of "Romeo and Juliet," by Mr. Wilton Jones, has been written at the instigation of Sir Augustus Harris for the Drury Lane manager. Mr. Tree gives the adaptation of Materiwick's weird one-act play "L'Intruse" ("The Intruder") an excellent chance, with a cast including himself and Mrs. Tree, with M. Fernandez and Macklin, and Miss Horovitz. The piece will be seen for the first time at the Haymarket matinee for the benefit of Mrs. B. Beers, previous to her departure for Australia on the 23rd inst., accompanied by Mr. Warner and Mr. Herbert Stirling. —Mr. Haddon Chambers has been commissioned to write a new play for Mr. Terriss. —Mr. Willard's progress through the American cities is in the nature of a triumphal procession; after being for the second time the recipient of golden opinions from all sorts of people at Chicago, the San Francisco public no sooner made acquaintance with him across the footlights than, as mark of their appreciation of his histrio-nic quality, they presented him with a silver casket opened with a golden key; and it is said the lining is even more precious than the box. —It is pleasant to know that the happy result of health restored. Miss Willard has been able to rejoin her husband, and share with him the well-earned gratification at his success. —Falconer's well-nigh forgotten Irish melodrama "Peep O'Day," will shortly be revived at the Olympic. —The children's pretty shadow pantomime seen through Christmas at the Royalty, has the San Francisco public no sooner made acquaintance with him across the footlights than, as mark of their appreciation of his histrio-nic quality, they presented him with a silver casket opened with a golden key; and it is said the lining is even more precious than the box. —It is pleasant to know that the happy result of health restored. 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## LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

John Molloy died in Dudley Workhouse at the age of 106 years.

During the third week in December there were 621 indoor and 33,761 outdoor paupers relieved in London.

Mr. Francis Court, postmaster at Portsmouth, retired recently at the age of 68 years. The appointment is worth £600 a year.

At noon on the 2nd a plateplayer, named Philip Griffiths, was knocked down by the London express, near Darwen railway, and killed.

Owing to the influenza epidemic the medical authorities at Fulham Infirmary are working twelve hours continuously, and assistance has had to be obtained to meet the increase of cases.

James H. Coope, formerly a partner of the late F. T. Barnes, and proprietor of Fournier's Circus, died at Philadelphia.

The cabmen of the Paris Urban Cab Company, belonging to the depot of the Rue Varenne, went out on strike.

A reception was given to Madame Sarah Bernhardt on new year's day at Montreal, and was attended by all the political and literary notabilities of the city.

From New York the death is announced of General Maier, who acted as quartermaster general of the Federal army during the civil war.

M. Woeste, leader of the Catholic party in Belgium, who had come to Rome at the special request of the Pope, was received in audience by his holiness.

The s.s. Roman (Warren Line) arrived at Boston on the 2nd. A steerage passenger having died from small-pox on the voyage, the ship has been fumigated and is now in quarantine.

The new immigrant landing station on Ellis Island, New York, was inaugurated on the 1st inst., when Anne Mo Ko, an Irish emigrant, the first to land, was presented with a ten-dollar gold piece.

An anniversary service in memory of the late Empress of Brazil was held at the church of St. Augustine, Paris, on the 2nd, which was attended by the members of the imperial family.

The s.s. Trave arrived at New York after a voyage described as the worst on record. The second officer had a leg broken while on duty on the bridge, and the passengers were kept below all the voyage.

Mr. Robert Butters, who has just retired from the W Division of the Metropolitan Police, in which he has served for twenty-six years, has been presented by the inhabitants of Mitcham with a handsome marble clock and a purse of sovereigns as a mark of their esteem.

At Southampton the local magistrate sent two young men named Edward Dennis and Frederick Young to three weeks hard labour each for stealing four bottles of whisky, value £1., from the shop of Mr. Edward Green, in the High-street, on Christmas eve.

A second death resulting from the fire at 2, Nelson-place, Bath, the house of Gen. Craer, on the 26th ult., occurred on the 2nd, when a servant named Annie Hawkins was badly burnt but managed to escape from the house by walking along the roof to the adjoining house, died from the injuries then received.

Capt. Lavington, of the Orient Line steamship Oroya, on arrival at Plymouth on the 2nd, reported having collided with and sunk, off Dover, on the previous night, the Danish schooner Fyl a, her captain, R. Jensen, being drowned. The remainder of the crew, five in number, were hauled up over the bows of the steamer.

A Devizes farmer, named Benjamin Rose, was crossing the Great Western railway, not far from his house, to get to some land in his occupation when he was knocked down by a passing train and killed. The body was so mutilated as to be past recognition, but the deceased was identified by means of papers in his pockets.

At Ramsgate on the 2nd inst. the master (Watson) and crew of the fishing smack, Briton's Pride, of that port, who gallantly rescued the only one left on the wreck of the Endakin, of Glasgow, on the Galloper Sands during a gale on the 12th December, were presented with a sum of money subscribed by their fellow townsmen in recognition of their bravery.

Mr. William H. Woolston, of Wallingborough, a well-known follower of the Pitholey and Oakley bounds, while riding to the meet of the latter pack, was thrown from his horse. His foot caught in the stirrup, the horse dragging him a considerable distance, and while plunging violently the animal kicked Mr. Woolston in the head. He was conveyed home in a critical condition.

An inquest was held at Durham Gaol concerning the death of a prisoner named Sankey, who had been committed for six months for assault, and who hanged himself in his cell. Sankey had been picking eatum on new year's eve, and having knotted several strands together, tied them to his handkerchief and managed to hang himself from his bedstead. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

Information reached Southampton on the 2nd from Lisbon that yellow fever is prevalent on board the Royal Mail Company's steamer, La Plata, due last night from Brazil. One or two cases have proved fatal, and it is said these include the chief steward, Mr. Smith. Of course anxiety prevails, and the arrival of the vessel is eagerly looked forward to, it being generally hoped that the report is exaggerated.

With the commencement of the new year second class tickets have been discontinued on the Cheshire lines and on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire joint system from Manchester to Hawarden and Wrexham via Chester. The London and North-Western Railway Company, in connection with the re-opening on the 1st of their branch line from Mold to Coed Talon, in Flintshire, provided only first and third class carriages.

A petition with 50,000 signatures from Portsmouth, which secured the commutation of the death sentence to one of penal servitude for life upon Fanny Gane, of the Isle of Wight, who was tried at the last Winchester Assizes for child murder, is being followed up at Portsmouth by another general petition to the Home Secretary and a women's petition to the Queen praying for a free pardon.

On the night of the 2nd, when the Strand was thronged with theatre-goers, a horse attached to a hansom cab began to career about and fall suddenly, as if dead, in such a position that the heavy traffic was almost completely blocked. Ladies and gentlemen in evening dress, finding their progress thus impeded, proceeded on foot to their various destinations, and afforded a curious contrast to the rough crowd which had collected.

## DEATH OF THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF BATH.

The Dowager Marchioness of Bath died on the 2nd inst. at Muntbam Court, Worthing. Her ladyship, who retained consciousness up to the time she breathed her last, was 87 years of age. She was daughter of the first Baron Ashburnham, and married the third Marquis of Bath in 1830, and has been a widow since 1857. Decreas had been suffering from influenza, but the immediate cause of death was syncope.

## DRUNKENNESS CURED.

A Wealthy American Lady, whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression, and General Despair, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying known remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Any one suffering, ordering to help others in this wretched way, may send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr. James Marshall, 2, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Address, Dr. James Marshall, 2, Great Titchfield-street, B.C. (Adv't).

## LABOUR MOVEMENTS.

## THE BOOKBINDERS.

A meeting of the bookbinders on strike was held on the 2nd inst. at St. Agatha's Schoolroom, Finsbury Avenue. One of Waterlow's strikers presided, and said that they now had about 600 men out who were determined to remain on strike until their demands had been conceded. A resolution to carry on the struggle was passed. With the exception of the men belonging to about thirty-three firms, which still hold out, all the binders have since the commencement of the New Year passed under the eight hours' system, with allowance for overtime in accordance with the terms of the agreement made by the section of the London Chamber of Commerce. Trouble is, however, feared in connection with the non-unionists, as the rules of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation (which includes the binders) does not allow working with non-union men, and the Cutters, Machine Binders and Warehousemen's Union have already called their men out from certain firms where non-unionists are employed.

## POSTMEN'S GRIVANCES.

With the incoming of the new year postmen throughout the United Kingdom participate in an increase of pay and other advantages which have been arranged for them by the new Postmaster-general. With one exception, all letter-carriers in the United Kingdom are this year to receive 2s. a week in addition to their former salary. The exception is that of the West Central Division of letter carriers, who will not, according to the new regulations, participate in the increase. In addition to the extra pay, postmen have the satisfaction of knowing that the good conduct stripes will be more generally granted, and in the case of rural postmen, a fortnight's holiday will be granted instead of a week as heretofore. These new regulations will cost the Post Office Department about £150,000 each year.

## PECULIAR PEOPLE AND FREE LOVE.

At the Stratford Petty Sessions on the 2nd, George Carter, a labourer, of Great Wakering, near Southend, appeared as an adjourned summons charging him with neglecting to support his wife and child and three step-children, whereby they became chargeable to the funds of the West Ham Union. The case has become notorious owing to the fact that the prisoner's wife admitted that she was a member of the Peculiar People, and thought it her duty to "love" everybody. She also said that it was true she was a lodger, also a member of the same society, and had sat upon her knees, and she upon his, and that she had kissed him, but that was only in accordance with the principles of the society. The defendant said he was not the master in the house, and was really turned out. He objected to the lodger, but it was of no use, his wife would have him there. The magistrate said that he (defendant) had a duty to perform—to support his wife and children. He had failed, and had not substantiated his complaints. He committed him to prison for one month, with hard labour.

## COURT MOURNING.

A supplement to the London Gazette, published on the 2nd, contains the order for the Court to go into mourning for the late Prince Victor of Hohenlohe. The Court will change mourning on the 13th inst., and go out of mourning on the 22nd inst.

## THE SHIPPING FEDERATION AND THEIR MEN.

In No. 37 shot at the Royal Albert Docks on the 2nd, about 500 free labour men were entertained to a substantial dinner by the Shipping Federation. Major Duthie took the chair after dinner, and, in addressing the men, he said that at time would prove that the union was not their friend, and in the long run respectable work people would find that capital and labour, if both must be successful, should work amicably together.

## MR. DE COBAIN.

Mr. De Cobain's solicitor has almost concluded the preparation of nearly a dozen affidavits for presentation to the Attorney-general to prove that the sworn informations upon which the warrant for the hon. member's arrest was issued were the result of refusal on his part to be blackmailed.

## THE ROYAL WEDDING.

A public meeting of residents of Windsor and neighbourhood, convened by Alderman J. Brown, the mayor, was held on the 2nd inst. at the Guildhall. Among those present were Mr. Barry, M.P. for the borough, Baron Schroeder, General Michael C.S.I., the Rev. T. Dalton, chairman of the Local Board of Eton, Sir J. Devereux, Sir H. Simpson, and the Hon. K. Butler. It was resolved to present a wedding gift from the town and neighbourhood to the Duke of Clarence and Princess Victoria of Teck on the occasion of their marriage, and that an illuminated address of congratulation on the happy event be referred to the Queen. It was also resolved that a fund be immediately started, with the mayor as treasurer, and the town clerk of Windsor as secretary, the subscription lists to be opened at the local banks.—After the meeting the sum of £200 was subscribed towards the wedding gift, Mr. Barry, M.P., Baron Schroeder, and the mayor being the principal subscribers.

## CO-OPERATIVE BUSSES.

The business of the North of London met during the early hours of Saturday morning at the Ingleby Arms, Grove-road, Holloway, in response to an invitation by the Co-operative Omnibus and Tram Workers' Union.

A coachman of the London General Omnibus Company presided.—Mr. Fred. Hammill (organising president of the Union) said it had become quite evident that the two principal bus companies had determined to crush the Union if they could.

This fact was apparent from their action towards their old servants, whom they were discharging on the most frivolous and trumped-up charges. The companies were, in reality, serving the Union by their tyrannical conduct.

If every busman in London joined the Union they would not have need for long to complain of the conduct of the company's officials, because they would then be in a position to demand proper treatment.

Referring to the proposal to run buses on the co-operative principle, Mr. Hammill said that the scheme had now assumed a tangible form. In March of this year the first co-operative buses would commence running to the number of twenty or more. (Cheers.) He trusted that every busman would become a shareholder. No dividends would be paid on shares, and the entire profits accruing from working the buses would be devoted to extending the operations of the shareholders, paying off the shares, and raising a fund for providing support for those who became too old to work longer on the buses.

## DEATH OF THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF BATH.

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A Wealthy American Lady, whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression, and General Despair, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying known remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Any one suffering, ordering to help others in this wretched way, may send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr. James Marshall, 2, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Address, Dr. James Marshall, 2, Great Titchfield-street, B.C. (Adv't).

## THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ASSOCIATION.

On the 2nd inst. Dr. B. W. Richardson, president of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association, gave his annual address, the first subject treated of in the discourse being: "The Incorporation of the Association." There was a large attendance of the members and their friends at the meeting, which was held in the large room of Carpenters' Hall, London Wall. The death of Lady Chadwick (wife of the late president), and the cremation of the body to take place at Woking was mentioned, and Dr. Richardson also announced an invitation from the greatest hygienic association of France to visit Paris, the proposed visit to take place about Whitmonday.—The president congratulated the association on having reached, at a comparatively early period of its existence, the dignity of a professional body. It was very evident that a society so young had achieved so high an honour.

The change implied increased responsibility, and he thought the first of the new duties incumbent on the association was to establish a school of hygienic teaching school.

In reference to the present position of masters hygienic, and the progress made in the training of students,

Dr. Richardson detailed the results of a comparison of the vital statistics of 1847 and 1880, which in certain classes showed an improvement, but in others a retrogression.

There had been a reduction in mortality from 32-25 in the former year to 20-15 in the latter, and in deaths from consumption from 12-07 to 9-12, with slight reductions in those from diseases of the digestive organs and other causes; but death from diseases of the brain and nerves and those from respiratory diseases not classed under consumption, had increased. The latter class showed an advancement in the death rate from 12-14 in 1847 to 17-78 in 1880, and diseases of the nervous system from 11-34 in the earlier year to 13-12 in 1880. The diminution of deaths from consumption might be expected to continue in the last decade, not so much from improved method of treatment, but to the increasing love of the English people for outdoor exercises, particularly lawn tennis and cycling, and to improved conditions in the housing of the people. Some people told them that insanity was on the increase. Suicide was certainly increasing, and it seemed that cases of cancer were constantly becoming more numerous. The greater activity in political and literary circles, in the race of ambition, and the race for wealth, which were obviously greater than in former generations were no doubt accountable for this regression. One respiratory disease, influenza, which was baffling all the doctors and sanitarians, might, perhaps, be due to cosmic causes, yet to be found out. Whatever was to be done or could be done within the sphere of the association would, he was convinced, be done by its members, and he wished them every success in their important work.—A discussion followed on the proposal of a vote of thanks to Dr. Richardson.

## THE CHARGE AGAINST A MINING INSPECTOR.

It is stated that the announcement recently made to the effect that arrangements would be made for reserved and discharged soldiers to obtain appointments as postmen is likely to fall short of the anticipations.

The postmen are recruited from the ranks of the telegraph boys, and it is stated that these more than supply the vacancies which occur.

## THE CHARGE AGAINST A MINING INSPECTOR.

Mr. Archibald Finchings, who was recently charged with assaulting a woman at Chelsea under circumstances which we reported at the time, has received notice that the grand jury at the Central Criminal Court has ignored the bill against him.

## STARTING THE NEW YEAR BADLY.

Ad. Elizabeth Perry, a well-dressed woman of 25, living at Vauxhall Bridge-road, was charged before Mr. De Rutzen, at Westminster Police Court on the 2nd inst., with felonious cutting and wounding Frederic Catton, electrician, with whom she cohabited.

The prosecutor, whose right arm was in a sling, said he was a member of the famous Parnell manifesto.

He says Mr. D. Sullivan and Dr. Fitzgerald, M.P., have given accounts, but these are not strictly accurate.

On November 28th, 1890, the writer was summoned to 31, Ecclestone-street, the residence of Dr. Fitzgerald, and was shown into a room where Mr. Parnell was writing his manifesto, having then completed four foolscap pages. These, and two other sheets written by Mr. Parnell, were forwarded to him for distribution to various newspapers, and then, as time passed, he dictated the remainder of the manifesto. It was written entirely by Mr. Parnell to the extent already mentioned, and the remainder was dictated by him, so that the statement that it was written by the author is incorrect. The author, the writer continued, was in excellent spirits, and did not show signs of preoccupation or anxiety. He talked in his usual quiet manner, and nobody unacquainted with him would have imagined that he was compiling a manifesto that would startle the world next morning. The document was read over to Mr. Justice McCarthy and to a veritable host of Mr. Parnell's colleagues before his final authority to publish it was given.

## HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND DEATH.

The coroner for East London was informed on the 2nd that a man named Joseph Morris, 36, who was formerly a time-keeper in the employ of the Bowes's Canal Dock Company, had died in the Stepney Side Asylum under suspicious circumstances.

The deceased, on being taken home during the foggy weather, when he was set up by some men, who attacked him about, stole his money (about 2s.), and decamped, and he is supposed to have died from the injuries then received.

## KILLED BY A VAN.

On the afternoon of the 1st inst., Hannah Owy, whilst crossing Old-street, was run over by a railway van, and, on being examined at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, it was found that she had sustained several fractured ribs and a fractured thigh. She was at once placed in the accident ward, but never rallied, and died the next day.

## POLICE PROMOTIONS.

The commissioners of metropolitan police have promoted Sub-divisional Insp. George Bassett, of the D or Tottenham Court-road District, to the position of chief inspector of the G or Clerkenwell Division rendered vacant by the retirement on a pension of Chief-insp. Bradley.

The commissioners have also promoted Sub-divisional Insp. Dendy, of the K Division, to chief-inspector of the H or Whitechapel Division, and Sub-divisional Insp. Crone, of the T Division, to a chief-inspector.

To Mr. Superintendent Butt, of the P Division, who retired after a service of over thirty years in the force, they have granted a pension of £220 per annum.

## THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

With reference to the rumour respecting the withdrawal of the 2s. piece from circulation, the Master of the Mint states that there is no intention on the part of her Majesty's Government of withdrawing farthings from circulation, or of ceasing to use them, and that with regard to double-florins, no action will be taken until the report of the committee of the design of coins, appointed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been taken into custody.

## PRINCE GEORGE'S CONVALESCENCE.

Shek Meoran Bukah, who telegraphed to the Prince of Wales on the 2nd congratulating him in the name of the Mohamedan Association of Lahore, Punjab, upon the recovery of Prince George, has received the following telegram from Sandringham in reply: The Prince of Wales thanks the Mohamedan Association of Lahore for congratulations.

An inquest was held on the 2nd touching the death of Mary Ann Lovejoy, an inmate of the Hanley Workhouse. It seems that the deceased, who was generally employed in the laundry, while there alone



naturally complain of the extra money which that situation costs them. From the point of view of the cab-hiring portion of the public there can be no doubt that an extension of the radius would be a step of great convenience. So far, there is much to be said for an extension to five miles, as suggested at the meeting of the St. Pancras Vestry on Wednesday, when the matter was under discussion. But what will the cabmen have to say? How far would the not very prosperous cab-driving industry approve of a change which would certainly deprive London cab-drivers of a considerable amount of money? An extension of the radius would be altogether against the interests of cabby. Nevertheless, if the public convenience requires it, the change will be made, whatever cabby may think of it. In justice to him, however, we think the opportunity of the change might be taken to do something for the existing cabmen of the metropolis by refusing to issue more licences. That there are a great deal too many cabs in London at present is evident from a mere glance at our streets. If, therefore, the cabman's chances of earning money be curtailed by an extension of the radius, it would at least be only fair to prevent the further growth of a competition which is already far too keen.

## INFLUENZA IN LONDON.

London had till last week suffered comparatively little from the revisitation of influenza. During the month of December fewer than fifty deaths were primarily attributed to the epidemic, though a high rate of mortality was reported to prevail in several provincial centres. Last week, however, the metropolitan record rose by 50 per cent., there being thirty-seven fatal cases as compared with nineteen in the preceding week. Last May, nearly 100 members of Parliament, including Mr. Gladstone and Mr. John Morley, were amongst the many London sufferers. Though Parliament is not now sitting, five members are reported ill from influenza—Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Bernard Colbridge, Mr. Cowley Lambert, Dr. Clark, and Mr. Dillon. Of members of the Upper House, Lord Saye and Sele, Earl Cadogan, and the Bishop of St. Asaph are suffering from the malady. Countess Brownlow and Lady Abergavenny are patients. A list of foreign sufferers includes the names of the Czarina, King Leopold of Belgium, the King of Sweden, Queen Mary of Hanover, M. Victorin Sardou, and Dr. Charcot. The following have died:—Maj.-g.-n. Montgomery C. Meiss, Professor Krister (Copenhagen), and M. Emile de Lavalette.

## Is INFLUENZA CONTAGIOUS?

There is no certainty as yet, the British Medical Journal says, to what extent influenza is contagious; all that we can assert with confidence at present is that there is some presumptive evidence that contagion is concerned in its dissemination. But in the midst of so much that is mere speculation in regard to a disease of which we know so little, it is quite possible that the conviction in respect to its contagious character may be largely fallacious. In the first place the exceedingly rapid onset of its attack militates strongly against the theory that the disease is infective in the ordinary sense of the term. If we take, for example, the outbreak on board the Dreadnought, we learn that the disease appeared on December 23rd, and two days later fifty men were placed on the sick list in consequence. This certainly points to something more than contagion as the cause of the epidemic. It rather indicates that the ship's company were all exposed to the maladies morbi under circumstances which were favourable to the development of the disease. With regard, however, to the unknown, doubtless in all good faith, by the Government, that no one suffering from the disease should expose himself in public under a penalty of £5, we fail to see, the Medical Journal continues, how any magistrates would be found to inflict legal penalty upon the hapless sufferer who had been haled to the court under this newly promulgated law. It certainly seems to be outstepping the bounds of expediency to attempt to make the populace in any town answerable for the dissemination, so to speak, of its own epidemic of influenza. In the present state of our knowledge of the disease such decrees are unquestionably premature and uncalled for, and, moreover, even wanting in good sense.

## THE GOODS GUARD AND THE WHISKY.

Robert Neal, until recently a goods guard in the service of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company, was, at the Croydon Borough Police Court, charged on a warrant with stealing a quantity of whisky, value £1 16s. 4d., while in transit, the property of his employers. Mr. A. Scaines, solicitor, appeared for the prosecution.—Edward T. Walter, a checker, in the service of the Midland Railway Company, at St. Pancras, stated that on the 7th ult. he transferred four casks of whisky from one truck to another. They were addressed to Messrs. Williamson, of High-street, South Norwood, and were perfectly sound. There were no spiles in the casks. The truck in which he placed them was sent into a goods siding, and from there to Croydon.—A. B. Rhodes, head shunter, in the service of the Brighton Company, at Battersea Wharf, said he remembered putting the truck on the quarter past 7 train to Norwood. The guards in charge were the prisoner and a man named Newell. There were two brakes to the train, and Neal should have been in the front and Newell in the rear one.—William Newell, under goods guard, said that on the day in question he was working with the prisoner. Prior to going to Norwood they went with the train to Lillie Bridge. Neal was in charge, and occupied the front brake. When they went to Norwood they were shunted into a siding, and the prisoner came to him and asked for his bottle, which witness lent him. It contained some tea, which the prisoner threw away. The prisoner asked him to accompany him to the Midland truck, which he did. Neal unhooked the truck and got in, witness standing by. He saw the prisoner do something to a cask with a gimlet, after which he got out of the truck and they both tied the sheet down. While he was in the truck Neal said the cask contained whisky. They both got into witness's brake, and witness accepted and drank out of the stone bottle, which contained a quantity of whisky. On the return journey to Battersea they both rode in the same brake and had several more drinks, and upon reaching their destination their foreman found them both asleep.—Albert Booker, a shunter at Norwood Junction, said that he was unable to find either of the guards, who was the worse for liquor. Witness noticed a strong smell of whisky in the Midland truck, and found that one of the casks was leaking.—Edwin Paul, foreman at Battersea Wharf, stated that upon the arrival of the prisoner's train there both guards were asleep and the worse for liquor. Neal was much worse than Newell. The stone bottle referred to had not been traced.—For further evidence, Mr. Alderman Hobbs said the bench could not pass a less sentence than three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

## EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF STOLEN BONDS.

At Marlborough-street Police Court, Frederick Pemberton Peach, aged 47, a financial agent, of Park-side, Chiswick-road, Richmond, was charged on a warrant with unlawfully conspiring, combining, confederating, and agreeing with Archibald Herbert Melville to obtain the sum of £200 by certain false pretences from George Willis Sears, with intent to defraud.—Mr. St. John Wontner, in opening the case for the prosecution, said that his friend, Mr. Scarlet, who had been retained for the defence, having informed him that he could not be present on that occasion, he proposed to take the evidence of Mr. Sears only and then ask for an adjournment. Although Mr. Sears was the person from whom the money was obtained, continued Mr. Wontner, the prosecution was not instituted at his instance, but at the instance of the Marine Insurance Company, who were very large losers over the transaction. The facts of the case were shortly that, on January 12th, 1890, some parcels of Turkish Priority bonds and a small quantity of Mexican bonds were insured in Paris for £28,400 with the Marine Insurance Company, and despatched to a firm of brokers in London. They duly left by train on January 11th, and were placed on board the South-Eastern Railway Company's steamer *Mary Beatrice* at Boulogne. The officials of the railway company should have been present when the parcels of bonds were locked in the safe of the *Mary Beatrice*; but as the *Mary Beatrice* was being cleared the steamer from Folkestone arrived, and caused some confusion among the men whose duty it was to see to the landing of goods and passengers. It was clear, however, that the bonds were taken on board and put on deck. When the safe to which they should have been conveyed direct was examined upon the arrival at the English shore, two of the parcels—namely, those worth £28,400—were missing. From subsequent inquiry at Boulogne it was learned that sundry persons had been seen to leave the steamer hurriedly, but beyond that no clue as to where the robbery took place could be found.

## A CLEVER CAPTURE.

Similar robberies occurring in the month of March of last year, Chief-insp. Abberline, of Scotland Yard, was sent over to Boulogne to see if he could recognise among the passengers arriving there any persons known to him as reputed bond robbers. On April 8th he caused to be arrested by the French police four men whom he saw leaving the steamer *Breeze*. One of them, who was known to him by the name of Powell, and who had been suspected for years as a bond robber, was found at the police office to be vigorously engaged in masticating something. A big French officer, seeing this, seized him by the jaws, and, forcing them open, took out of his mouth a mass of somewhat pulpy paper, which, when it had been carefully laid out, proved to be a cloak-room ticket for an article left at Victoria Station. In one of Powell's hands was found another ticket relating to a valise left at Dover. This value contained sham bonds, which, it was supposed, it was intended to replace by other genuine bonds which might be secured possession of during the transit. Upon one of the other men were found two keys, one of which was a master-key for the locks of all the safes in the South-Eastern Railway Company's fleet. Another of the men was noticed to be apparently most diligently searching under one of his arms. On his coat being removed the object of his diligence proved to be a wad impression of one of the keys of the *Breeze*, which he had been striving to crush out of shape. The fourth man was found to be in possession of impressions of two other keys. Efforts were made to bring about the extradition, and materials were laid before the French Government to justify the delivery of the men over to the English police, to take their trial here for the Chapman's ministrations, and on Sunday attended service in the prison chapel. He also wrote letters to his relatives cautioning them against the evil of drink. The chaplain went to Stockwell's cell at 6 o'clock in the morning, and shortly before 8, Billington, the hangman, entered the cell, and pinioned the culprit. He then led him to the corridor, whence the procession started for the scaffold. Stockwell walked with a firm step, and at once, on reaching the gallows, took his place on the trap door. In a few moments the bolt was drawn, and all was over. Billington allowed a drop of eight feet, and death was instantaneous.—The following is a copy of Stockwell's last letter, written from the gaol under date of 4th ult.—“My dear father and mother, brothers and sisters,—I write this short letter to you in the hope that you will bear your troubles, which have so greatly distressed you of late. I was very pleased to see you all to-day, although I feel greatly troubled at the time. Many a prayer have I offered to God both on behalf of you and myself. Has he not said, ‘Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest?’ I leave with you my most affectionate love. To my dear mother may God have mercy on her, and if it be His will return to her health and strength again. Grant, oh! Lord, Thy protection and mercy to all those from whom I am about to be separated in this world, especially to my father, mother, sister, and brother, and graciously supply all their needs. Comfort and support them in all their troubles. Deliver them from all temptation, and bring them to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Remember me kindly to Abraham Lesssey and Joe Sharp. So now I will bid you all a long and affectionate farewell, hoping to meet you all hereafter. From your affectionate son and brother, JAMES STOCKWELL, P.S.—God bless you all.”

TURNING THEM OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

The cloak-room ticket of Victoria Station had in the meantime been found to refer to a hatbox, containing sixty-two of the coupons belonging to a part of one of the parcels of June 1st. Abberline thought it advisable to make inquiries at Cannon-street Station. On searching there he found a Gladstone bag, which had been lying in the cloak-room from about the date of the robbery. Being able to open the bag without breaking the lock, he examined it, and inside discovered a large number of the missing bonds. He then arranged with the railway police to be communicated with when anybody called for the bag. A woman called a day or two afterwards, and was told that the bag was in the store and asked to come again. Instead of returning, however, she sent a telegram asking that the bag might be sent to the Piccadilly office of the railway company. While waiting the arrival of the bag at that office, Insp. Abberline went into the Café Monico, and there saw in close conversation Powell and a man named Coche, who was known to him as a man of a similar occupation to Powell. Coche left the café, and, going into the street, met the woman and accompanied her to the railway office, giving her something just before she entered. When the bag arrived it was delivered to the woman. On leaving the office she joined Coche, and drove with him in a cab to St. John's Wood Railway Station. There the bag was left, while Coche and the woman proceeded to a house in Carlton-road St. John's Wood, where Insp. Abberline found that they had been cohabiting. The inspector went up to the house, and, being admitted, entered into conversation, which led to the bag being sent for.

THEY WERE GREATLY ASTONISHED when they found that it contained nothing. He (Mr. Wontner) mentioned this matter as a connecting link in the proof of the case. He might say at that point that 2,000 of the bonds were seized in Vienna by the Austrian police while in the possession of two men, who were subsequently sentenced to terms of imprisonment. Last July Mr. Sears, a gentleman who, like his wife, had independent means and lived in Regent-street, received a letter from Peach, whom he had previously known, and to whom he had made something to a cask with a gimlet, after which he got out of the truck and they both tied the sheet down. While he was in the truck Neal said the cask contained whisky. They both got into witness's brake, and witness accepted and drank out of the stone bottle, which contained a quantity of whisky. On the return journey to Battersea they both rode in the same brake and had several more drinks, and upon reaching their destination their foreman found them both asleep.—Albert Booker, a shunter at Norwood Junction, said that he was unable to find either of the guards, who was the worse for liquor. Witness noticed a strong smell of whisky in the Midland truck, and found that one of the casks was leaking.—Edwin Paul, foreman at Battersea Wharf, stated that upon the arrival of the prisoner's train there both guards were asleep and the worse for liquor. Neal was much worse than Newell. The stone bottle referred to had not been traced.—For further evidence, Mr. Alderman Hobbs said the bench could not pass a less sentence than three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

At Somerset Sessions, held at Taunton, an appeal against the decision of the Keynsham Justices, who refused to sanction the transfer of the licence of the Crown Inn at Keynsham, because it was a tied house, was sustained. This is the first time the question has been raised in that form.

Whilst a number of youths were playing in some old buildings in Ancoats, Manchester, the buildings suddenly collapsed, and four of them were buried in the ruins. Two managed to extricate themselves, but the remaining two were only rescued after considerable labour, and were removed to the Ancoats Hospital badly injured. The buildings had been condemned by the Corporation and the bench could not pass a less sentence than three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

At the end of the hearing, the magistrate converted into an issue of Four per Cent. and

THEATRICALS IN THE EAST END.

At the Thames Police Court, Elias Jarzowski, Benjamin Jarzowski, Julius Flush, Simon Blumenthal, David Heller, Edward Heller (the younger), and Aaron Carovillier, appeared to answer three summonses for unlawfully keeping a house for the public performance of stage plays without the authority of virtue of letters patent from her Majesty, or licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or justices. The two Jarzowski's, Flush, and Blumenthal were also summoned for selling intoxicating liquors without being licensed. Mr. St. John Wontner, prothonotary on behalf of Sir E. Bradford, Commissioner of police, and Mr. W. G. Windsor, represented the defendants.—Mr. Wontner, in opening the case, said the premises in question were situated at the Oriental Working Men's Club, Vine-court, Whitechapel. This place had been under the observation of the police for some time past, and there was no doubt three or four times a week stage plays had habitually taken place there. The commissioner had power to enter the place in question on his own warrant, and seize all persons found therein; but, taking into account the fearful catastrophe that had happened in a similar place in the neighbourhood a few years ago, when thirty persons were crushed to death, that step was not taken, especially as information had been obtained that in the event of a raid of that kind taking place the gas might be turned off. In this case there was only one outlet, and in the event of a panic fearful results might follow. The case was supported by the evidence of Benjamin Appleton, of 14, Winterton-street, Commercial-bar, who went to the Vine-court Club Theatre on the 28th ult. He put down 4d, and asked Elias Jarzowski for a ticket. He got one, in three acts, performed by players in character. There was an orchestra, and a bar at which people were drinking. Witness paid 2d. for whisky and 2d. for cakes. He also bought two cigarettes. On leaving they gave him a pass, which he gave to Det.-supt. White. The next Saturday he went again with a man named Levitoff. He paid 3d. to the same defendant, and his friend paid 6d. for the gallery. The play was “The Spanish Gipsy.” People were playing in costume, and the place was full. Witness bought some whisky, and paid an old woman for it. He received a similar ticket as before, on leaving; that ticket re-admitted him. He went there on another occasion, when the play “La Traviata” was performed in opera. He had whisky and beer that night.—By the Magistrate: On the first occasion they acted a play called “Ahasuerus.”—By Mr. Windsor: Every one of the stage was dressed up. He knew a few of them. They were not working men.—Det.-supt. White instructed him to go to the police place, and gave him the money. Bills advertising the play were posted about the streets. He did not know he had to pay a subscription before he could join the club, or that there was a committee in respect of the club. He did not know on December 5th the play was given for the benefit of one of the members.—After other evidence Mr. Wontner adjourned the case.

## EXECUTION AT LEEDS.

The man Stockwell, sentenced to death for the murder of Kate Dennis, a servant girl, aged 16, at Lintwhite, near Huddersfield, paid the penalty of his crime in Leeds Gaol on Tuesday morning. Stockwell, who was 32 years of age, and a farm labourer, was a married man with one child. The execution was carried out privately, the high sheriff having decided that no reporters should be admitted, and the first intimation that the death sentence had been carried into effect was the hoisting of the black flag, which was witnessed by a small crowd of persons living in the vicinity of the prison. Stockwell, since his condemnation, has slept well, and eaten his food heartily. On being told by the chaplain that he would have to suffer the extreme penalty of the law, he was somewhat overcome, he having evidently hoped that the plea that insanity existed in the family would save him from the gallows, but speedily recovered himself. He said he was prepared to die, and that he was drunk when he killed the girl. Subsequently he paid great attention to the chaplain's ministrations, and on Sunday attended service in the prison chapel. He also wrote letters to his relatives cautioning them against the evil of drink. The chaplain went to Stockwell's cell at 6 o'clock in the morning, and shortly before 8, Billington, the hangman, entered the cell, and pinioned the culprit. He then led him to the corridor, whence the procession started for the scaffold. Stockwell walked with a firm step, and at once, on reaching the gallows, took his place on the trap door. In a few moments the bolt was drawn, and all was over. Billington allowed a drop of eight feet, and death was instantaneous.—The following is a copy of Stockwell's last letter, written from the gaol under date of 4th ult.—“My dear father and mother, brothers and sisters,—I write this short letter to you in the hope that you will bear your troubles, which have so greatly distressed you of late. I was very pleased to see you all to-day, although I feel greatly troubled at the time. Many a prayer have I offered to God both on behalf of you and myself. Has he not said, ‘Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest?’ I leave with you my most affectionate love. To my dear mother may God have mercy on her, and if it be His will return to her health and strength again. Grant, oh! Lord, Thy protection and mercy to all those from whom I am about to be separated in this world, especially to my father, mother, sister, and brother, and graciously supply all their needs. Comfort and support them in all their troubles. Deliver them from all temptation, and bring them to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Remember me kindly to Abraham Lesssey and Joe Sharp. So now I will bid you all a long and affectionate farewell, hoping to meet you all hereafter. From your affectionate son and brother, JAMES STOCKWELL, P.S.—God bless you all.”

## ROBBERY PILLAR LETTER-BOXES.

Charles Horton, commission agent, was charged at Hove Police Court, with stealing various sums of money from pillar letter-boxes. Mr. Breton Osborne, assistant-solicitor to the Post Office, prosecuted, and said that since the 1st of December robberies had been going on in several towns on the south coast. A large number of pillar-boxes had been broken open in Brighton and Hove, and on December 8th operations were repeated to Portsmouth, where a hatbox was at the station, and shortly before 8, Billington, the hangman, entered the cell, and pinioned the culprit. He then led him to the corridor, whence the procession started for the scaffold. Stockwell walked with a firm step, and at once, on reaching the gallows, took his place on the trap door. In a few moments the bolt was drawn, and all was over. Billington allowed a drop of eight feet, and death was instantaneous.—The following is a copy of Stockwell's last letter, written from the gaol under date of 4th ult.—“My dear father and mother, brothers and sisters,—I write this short letter to you in the hope that you will bear your troubles, which have so greatly distressed you of late. I was very pleased to see you all to-day, although I feel greatly troubled at the time. Many a prayer have I offered to God both on behalf of you and myself. Has he not said, ‘Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest?’ I leave with you my most affectionate love. To my dear mother may God have mercy on her, and if it be His will return to her health and strength again. Grant, oh! Lord, Thy protection and mercy to all those from whom I am about to be separated in this world, especially to my father, mother, sister, and brother, and graciously supply all their needs. Comfort and support them in all their troubles. Deliver them from all temptation, and bring them to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Remember me kindly to Abraham Lesssey and Joe Sharp. So now I will bid you all a long and affectionate farewell, hoping to meet you all hereafter. From your affectionate son and brother, JAMES STOCKWELL, P.S.—God bless you all.”

## MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest, at the St. Pancras Coroner's Court, respecting the death of Isabella Burns, aged 35, described as single, lately lodger at Argyle-street, Gray's-inn-road. The deceased formerly resided at Cape Town with her mother, but upon the latter's death some years ago returned to this country.—Ellen Haste, the landlady of 1, Argyle-street, said that deceased, who had lodged with her for three weeks, suffered from nervous depression, was delirious, and at times absented-minded. On the 31st ult. the witness went to her room, and found that Miss Burns had “disappeared,” having gone out without boots, hat, or jacket. About 10.30 p.m. Miss Burns brought home a Scotch whisky.—Det. Cole said thirty-three spirit bottles were found in a chest of drawers in deceased's room.—Dr. Richardson, who examined the body, said he found a wound four inches long over the windpipe. Besides there were found the fur pelts of the victim, valued at £30, and his other effects. The inquest adjourned.

## DEFRADING OXFORD TRADESMEN.

At Oxford City Quarter Sessions, Arthur Chamberlain Dynham, aged 24, son of the head master of Andover Grammar School, was charged with obtaining by false pretences various articles from Oxford tradesmen.—The prisoner was residing with his mother in Oxford, and ordered goods from tradesmen in the names of J. G. Jones, and G. H. Davis, Jesus College. The defence was that there was no intent to defraud.—The prisoner was found guilty.—The Rev. James Cecil Witton, the present head master of Andover Grammar School, spoke as to the prisoner's antecedents and character, and his counsel, Mr. Acland, appealed to the court not to send the prisoner to the First Offenders' Act, and to release him in his own recognisance or of a surety. He read a sworn declaration by the Rev. J. Gover Jones, formerly of Jesus College, to the effect that he had always found the prisoner honest and truthful. As he had often shared purchases with him, he fully believed that the prisoner was impressed with the idea that he might use his name.—The deputy recorder, Mr. J. D. S. Sim, said he could draw no distinction between the prisoner, who was occupying the position of a gentleman, and that of an ordinary labourer who yielded to a sudden temptation and who perhaps had a wife and children starved at home. He sentenced D. Dynham to a month's imprisonment with hard labour.—The prisoner treated his position very coolly.

At the triennial school board election at Portsmouth, held at Taunton, an appeal against the decision of the Keynsham

## THEATRICALS IN THE EAST END.

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## A CROYDON OUTRAGE.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

At the Croydon Police Court, before the mayor (Mr. F. T. Edridge) and other magistrates, James Parsons, 38, formerly an ironmonger carrying on business at Leatherhead, was charged on remand with assaulting Rose Walker, a young girl under the age of 16 years. Mr. H. G. Edridge appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. G. W. Dennis defended. —At the first hearing the prosecutor, a middle-aged girl, employed as a servant at 2, Nottingham-road, South Croydon, stated that at 8.30 on the night of the 20th ult. she was returning to her master's house after posting some letters, when in a dark part of the road, the prisoner sprang upon her, pulled her down, and after threatening to eat her throat, assaulted her. She had once before been molested by him, but on that occasion she ran away. On the following morning he called at the house and asked whether there were any shoes to mend. She was positive as to his identity, and gave a full description of him to the police.—The evidence of Dr. Shadforth Morton, who examined the prosecutrix, went to show that a most serious assault had been committed upon her.—Det.-Supt. Ward, T division, deposed that on the 21st ult. he received certain information from the prosecutrix, in consequence of which he went to the prisoner's father's shop in Southbridge-road, Croydon. There were three men in the shop, and in the prisoner's hearing the prosecutrix said, "That is he." Parsons said, "I have never seen the girl before; where does she live?" Witness told him 8, Nottingham-road, and he replied that No. 13 was the only house he had been to in that road. The witness then told him that

He would be ARRESTED, whereupon he said, "Do you think I, a member of a Christian church and the father of a family, would do such a thing?" adding, "Are you joking, or having a lark with me?" He also said, "I have seen the girl before; I saw her yesterday when I went to the house to get some repairs. I remember now. When was this?" Witness said, "At 8.30 on Wednesday night, on Bramley Hill, just before you get to the vicarage, and before you come to the railings up the hill." On the way to the station the accused said, "Let me see, I don't know where I was on Wednesday night." That was as if he was endeavouring to recollect. Shortly afterwards he added: "Oh, I remember now. I ought to have gone to the Park-street Church at half-past 7, but I had some letters to write, and I went next door to see my father about 8 o'clock. Then I went to post my letters, and then to church, and arrived there about twenty minutes to 9." At the station Insp. Godden took the charge, and the prisoner repeated what he had said. After being brought before the magistrate on the 2nd inst., and before his father was bailed out, the prisoner's father brought to the police station a black overcoat and a soft felt hat, which exactly answered the description given to witness by the prosecutrix. The prosecutrix's husband here

Burst Out Crying, and informed the magistrates that his daughter was only 16 and not 15 as she stated on the last occasion.—Mr. Edridge said he was quite willing that the charge should be altered.—The mayor, however, said the bench did not feel justified in allowing the alteration suggested, and the case proceeded.—Mr. Dennis then announced that the defence would be an alibi. He called James Parsons, the defendant, who stated that he was a married man with eight children, and came to Croydon in March last from Leatherhead, where he had been in business. He remembered the evening of Wednesday, December 30. He left his house at 8 o'clock, and went to Rose Mount, Bramley Hill, to take a parcel for his father. That was about two minutes past from his house, and he returned at about 8.10 or 8.15. He then went indoors, and addressed some letters he had previously written, and after going upstairs to see his wife, who had been confined a few days before, he went straight to the General Post-office, and from there to the George-street Congregational Church. He arrived at the latter place not later than 20 minutes to 9. It would take from 15 to 17 minutes to get from his house to the post-office and from there to the church. Mr. Dennis: Did any particular ceremony take place in the church that night with regard to yourself? Yes; I received

THE HAND OF FELLOWSHIP. The minister shook hands with me as the deputy of the congregation, and thus admitted me as a member of the church. I had been proposed a fortnight before.—In reply to further questions put by Mr. Dennis, the defendant said he did not see the prosecutrix that night, nor had he ever spoken to her in his life. It was true that he called at her master's house the next morning for orders, but he had previously done work for the servants there. He did not then say to the prosecutrix, "Are you all right?" as she had alleged. What he did say was, "Thank you, all right. Good day."—Cross-examined by Mr. Edridge: The service in the church began at 8.30, but the special monthly meeting was at 8.30. It took him longer to write his letters than he expected. He did not wear an overcoat that night. Sometimes he wore a hat, and sometimes a cap. He should say that Rose Mount was at least 100 yards from the spot where the assault was committed; it certainly was not opposite. It was about 8.10 when he left Rose Mount. He did not recall telling the detective that he did not remember where he was that night.—By the Bench: The letter produced was written that night, although he attended it the 23rd.—Re-examined: Being innocent of the charge he thought the detective was playing a joke on him.—By Mr. Edridge: He declined to be examined by a doctor because he was

A RESPECTABLE MARRIED MAN.—Henry Siner, deputy doorkeeper at the George-street Congregational Church, stated that on the night in question the defendant came there at about 8.40, when the proceedings had just commenced. Parsons was one of the new members admitted that night, and witnessed him shake hands with the minister.—Mr. John Trim King, one of the deacons, gave it as his opinion that the defendant reached the church at about 8.40, or perhaps a few minutes later.—The Rev. William James Loxton, Congregational minister in charge of Leatherhead, said he had known the defendant four and a half years as a highly respectable man, and a devoted father and husband. He was connected with witness's congregation, and was a member of his choir, and as such he was a regular attendant. He was one of the last men he would consider capable of committing such an act as that charged.—Mr. Palmer, a jeweller, of Leatherhead, who had known the defendant six years, said he had always found him a most desirable companion.—Mr. Dennis now read a letter from the vicar of Leatherhead, which set forth that he had known Parsons for fifteen years as a sober, industrious, and steady man.—Robert Nelson, a grocer in the same service as the prosecutrix, was then called by Mr. Edridge to prove that the spot where the girl said she was assaulted was less than fifty yards from Rose Mount.—This being the case for the prosecution the prisoner reserved his defence, and was fully committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, the bail being enlarged.

## BURGLARS IN FLEET-STREET.

AN EXCITING CHASE.

At the Mansion House Police Court, Ave Maria, who answered to the names of John Goldsmith, 26, agent; Thomas Lester, 32, musician; James King, 40, porter, Bridport-place; Horton; James Harrison, 33, porter and Robert Samson, 21, porter, were charged with being concerned in burglariously entering the premises of Messrs. Saqui and Lawrence, jewellers, 27, Fleet-street, under circumstances reported in an extra special edition of the People on Sunday last. Goldsmith, Leicestershire, Harrison, and Samson had no fixed address.—Det.-Supt. Palmer, of the City police, deposed to seeing Goldsmith and Leicester acting suspiciously at the side door of the prosecutrix's premises in Bride-lane, about half-past 11 on Saturday night, the 2nd inst. Whilst Leicester was stooping close to the door Goldsmith kept watch, and gave a signal to his confederate by raising his hat. Mr. Cuthbert, the manager of Messrs. Saqui's business, who had been out for a walk shortly returned, and, going to the door, exclaimed, "Some one is breaking into our shop." He (Palmer) replied, "All right," and instantly seized the two men by their necks, and, other constables coming up at the time, they were removed to the station. On Cuthbert's opening the outer door Palmer found that an inner door of iron, which cut off the entrance to the stairs, and the rooms above, was partly bent at the top. The head of a broom had been wedged half-way through the opening, and two parts of the broken handle were protruding. The woodwork of the door had been splintered. A trap-door leading to the roof was open, and lying between the ceiling and the floor were a black felt hat and a large sack, and in a lumber-room below were stacks of burglaries. By this time King, Harrison, and Samson, begrimed with dust, had been lodged at the station, and all five were accordingly charged with burglary. On Goldsmith was found two street door keys and 1d. on Leicester, two keys and 5s. 6d.; on King, a key; and on Harrison, 1d. and a knife. All the prisoners had pipe and matches, four of the boxes being of the same manufacture. Palmer afterwards examined the door of No. 25, the Old Bell public-house, Fleet-street, and found that a trap-door leading to the roof was open, and the bench did not feel justified in allowing the alteration suggested, and the case proceeded.—Mr. Dennis then announced that the defence would be an alibi. He called James Parsons, the defendant, who stated that he was a married man with eight children, and came to Croydon in March last from Leatherhead, where he had been in business. He remembered the evening of Wednesday, December 30. He left his house at 8 o'clock, and went to Rose Mount, Bramley Hill, to take a parcel for his father. That was about two minutes past from his house, and he returned at about 8.10 or 8.15. He then went indoors, and addressed some letters he had previously written, and after going upstairs to see his wife, who had been confined a few days before, he went straight to the General Post-office, and from there to the George-street Congregational Church. He arrived at the latter place not later than 20 minutes to 9. It would take from 15 to 17 minutes to get from his house to the post-office and from there to the church. Mr. Dennis: Did any particular ceremony take place in the church that night with regard to yourself? Yes; I received

THE BARMAIDS' GUILD.

Lady Wolverton, who has come to 8, Seamer-place, Mayfair, for the next few weeks, will commence on Sunday afternoon a series of "at homes" for barmaids and women employees connected with restaurants. The proceedings are to be made as informal and sociable as possible, and are intended to afford some pleasant variety, especially in the lives of those who are without friends in London. Hartley House, at 172, Buckingham Palace-road, which Lady Wolverton and a number of other ladies interested in the welfare of this class are opening to provide a cheap and comfortable home for them, will be ready for occupation in about a fortnight's time. Lord Wolverton has consented to act as honorary treasurer of the fund which is being formed from the subscriptions to aid members in times of sickness. The secretary is Mr. W. E. Clifford, 177, Camden Grove North, Peckham.

In the last twelve years Paris has invested \$70,000,000 on statues and \$5,000,000 on ornamental fountains.

## DRUNKENNESS CURED.

A Young American lady, whom my son for years has love for, is IMPRESARIO, MERCHANT, DRA-ESSOR, and GENERAL DRAFFER, after resting in vain for a Cure, and trying all known remedies, as not found a single means that could cure her from a drunken's curse. Any one suffering, or desiring to help others in the working classes, to meet a self-addressed stamped envelope in his JAMES何MAN, 16, Hart-silver, High Street, London, will receive this information, free of charge. James何Man 16, High Street, London, the best known "Draffor" and

## FRAUD BY AN UNDERTAKER.

At the West Ham Police Court, Thomas Cribb, an undertaker, of Hallsville-road, Canning Town, was summoned, at the instance of Mr. John James Mulley, deputy superintendent registrar of births and deaths, for that he did, on October 17th last, unlawfully and wilfully place and cause to be interred in the coffin containing the body of one James Walker, the body also of one Catherine Ruth Isley, without delivering to the person performing the funeral service for the burial of James Walker a notice in writing giving, to the best of his (the defendant's) knowledge and belief, the particulars of the name, sex, and place of abode of the said Catherine Ruth Isley.—The defendant said he pleaded guilty to burying

"TWO CHILDREN IN ONE COFFIN."

but Mr. Baggally observed that there was no offence in doing this. The charge was that he did not make a true statement to the cemetery authorities when he buried.—Mr. Lynch, who prosecuted, said that in October a poor woman named Isley lost her child which was 10 days old. She employed the defendant to bury the child. On the Friday night following a child was brought to the house, and Mrs. Isley, who was still ill, saw the body of her child placed in the coffin, screwed down, and taken away. Mrs. Isley was given to understand that the child could not be buried until the registration of death was complete. The next day the child was duly registered, and the certificate sent to the defendant's place of business. On October 10th he sent to her a communication intimating that the child had been buried in grave number 16,384, in the East London Cemetery, and he also forwarded a number of memorial cards. A week or so later Mrs. Isley went to the cemetery to visit the grave of her child, and as she

"COULD NOT FIND THE PLACE."

she got into communication with the cemetery authorities. Then it was revealed that Mrs. Isley's child had been buried with a child named Walker, and the defendant by doing this had defrauded the burial company of the fees. But he had been guilty of a far more serious offence under another section of this Act. The child Walker died on October 17th, was 16 days old, and was duly registered as of that age, but when the certificate goes to the hands of the cemetery authorities the "16" was altered to "11." By this alteration the defendant saved 2s. 6d. The fees for a child under 12 days old being that amount less than it would be if the age was over 12 days. Subsequently Mrs. Isley saw the defendant, and when he suggested that a few shillings would settle it. When this was refused he declined to say in which of three cemeteries the child had been interred.—Formal evidence of the registration of the two children was then given, and Harold Little, secretary of the cemetery, said that on the complaint of Mrs. Isley he at once wrote to the defendant, who admitted that he buried the child Isley with the child Walker on October 17th, and eventually he sent particulars of the age, &c. Mrs. Isley said as that when the defendant led on her he suggested that a few shillings would rectify the matter, and that she did not want to harm him. She refused his money. Next day he called again and asked her to say that the matter was settled between them, but she declined. He then said he would not tell her where the child was, at West Ham, Manor Park, or East London; but later on he told her that he had buried the child at St. Paul's London with the child Walker. He gave as his reason for this that the cemetery authorities

"GOD FORGIVES EVERYONE OR THE BURIALS OF CHILDREN." He also said he had done it many times, and that they (the undertakers) all did it.—Mr. Harold Little, recalled, said that he was not at the cemetery on October 17th when the child Walker was buried. The defendant, as a fact, sent the certificate relating to the child up to the cemetery after the interment. Witness added that the cemetery authorities seldom received notice of interment in the case of very young children. Undertakers brought them with other funerals, and handed over the certificates at the gates of the cemetery.—Defendant, in answer to the charge, said he was very sorry this had happened, but he pleaded that the child was registered correctly. His fee for the funeral was only 12s., and it was usual for undertakers to take two or three of them to the cemetery at a time, as now and again they did not have one adult funeral in a week. On this occasion he had not sufficient money to pay for two interments, and he therefore paid for the one. As to his offer of 2s. to settle the matter, Mrs. Isley said the funeral should have been done for 10s., and he offered her the balance of that sum and the money he received. Out of the 12s. 6d. was paid for the ground at the cemetery, so that there was not much left for the coffin and the carrying of it to the grave, while he had to give the nurse a trifle.—Mr. P. C. Bowyer, 972, said that at a quarter past 12 on Sunday morning, when with Sergt. Ballard, he heard the housekeeper at Messrs. Pooley's call out, "There's some men on the roof." As she was afraid to come down from her bed-room and open the front door, witness climbed up the water-spout outside, and entered by the first floor window, which had been left unfastened. Hearing some one on the stairs she shouted for aid, when Sergt. Ballard came up by means of a ladder. On the staircase they met Harrison and Samson, and both of them said they would go quietly.—P. N. Ballard deposed that when he seized Harrison on the third floor, he exclaimed, "All right, governor, we are blocked up above—there is some one at the trap-door on the top."—Mr. Alderman Cotton remanded the prisoners, and, addressing Palmer, said, "The manner in which you laid your plans to secure the capture of these men is worthy of the highest commendation."

SUICIDE OF A POLICE SERGEANT.

A telegram from Ilford, Essex, reports that P.S. Stillaway, of Worthing, has hanged himself in a shed. The deceased had been many years in the force.

## WINDSOR AND PLUMPTON GEMS.

WISDOM NEVER FOLLOWS LUCKY MEN. WHO SHOULD SPORTMEN WAIT? MONEY WON NOW IS AS GOOD AS LATER.

## HOPE AND BRIGHT.

BRITAIN'S IMPERIAL TELEGRAPHISTS.

## INVINCIBLE ONE-CLASS WIRES

FOR THE GRANDLY FAIR

NO WIN NO PAY PRINCIPLE.

WHAT CAN FAIR FRIENDS DO?

THE BRITISH TELEGRAPHISTS, WHICH CAN SAY,

PROUD WITH PLUMPTON'S, THIS DAY THE

PROUD WITH WINDSOR'S, YESTERDAY.

PROUD WITH BRIGHTON'S, THIS MORNING.

PROUD WITH ST. ALBANS', THIS AFTERNOON.

PROUD WITH LEEDS', THIS EVENING.

PROUD WITH BIRMINGHAM'S, THIS SATURDAY.

PROUD WITH MANCHESTER'S, THIS SUNDAY.

PROUD WITH LIVERPOOL'S, THIS MONDAY.

PROUD WITH CARDIFF'S, THIS TUESDAY.

PROUD WITH GLASGOW'S, THIS WEDNESDAY.

PROUD WITH EDINBURGH'S, THIS THURSDAY.

PROUD WITH DUBLIN'S, THIS FRIDAY.

PROUD WITH BOSTON'S, THIS SATURDAY.

PROUD WITH NEW YORK'S, THIS SUNDAY.

PROUD WITH PARIS', THIS MONDAY.

PROUD WITH ST. PETERSBURG'S, THIS TUESDAY.

PROUD WITH MOSCOW'S, THIS WEDNESDAY.

PROUD WITH KARLSSBURG'S, THIS THURSDAY.

PROUD WITH ST. PETERSBURG'S, THIS FRIDAY.

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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There were six cases of suicide last week in the metropolis.

There were 3,181 births and 3,329 deaths in London last week.

No fewer than twenty-nine peers died during the past year, or at the rate of more than two a month.

One hundred and eighteen deaths in London last week were attributable to accident or negligence.

Forty-three lives were lost during last year in connection with the Grimsby fishing industry.

In 1851 the magistrates of Essex in quarter sessions fixed the wages of artisans and labourers at £1.6d. and £1. a day respectively.

Under the new State Constitution there will only be one election in Mississippi between now and 1885.

From half-a-crown to five shillings a square foot is to be charged exhibitors for space in the English section of the "World's Fair" at Chicago.

A woman and her two sons have just matriculated at the Kentucky University, and expect to take the entire college course in the same classes.

Mr. Davitt will now be asked to stand for North Wexford, which seat is vacant by the transference to another constituency of Mr. Redmond.

Dr. Richardson regards "every abstainer who mingles with the world at large, and makes himself happy and useful, as a teacher of total abstinence of the first quality."

The breadth of land planted with fruit trees has increased since 1875 by 45,313 acres. The consumption of fruit has increased from £2 to £2.8d. per head of the population.

Napoleon used to say that he always thought that in a quadrille he was working out a mathematical problem, and that the final figure was the Q.E.D.

Samuel Paul of Paul's Valley, Louisiana, was shot and killed by his son Joseph, who emptied both barrels of a shot-gun into his father's body at close range. There had been no feeling between the two for a long time.

George Mears of Aurora, Illinois, went to the house of George Wormley, on a farm near Oswego, where his wife, who had left him, resided. Forcing his way into the house, he shot Mrs. Wormley and one of her sons.

It is interesting to learn that the whole of the magnificent brocades, velvets, and silks for the costumes in the Lycum version of "Henry VIII." have been woven in English looms by English workmen.

A terrible tragedy has disturbed Rockport, the Tennessee town. Harry Oliver stabbed Tom Wylie to the heart with a large knife, and was himself killed by Oliver, who turned just as he was struck and crushed Wylie's head with a cart hook.

A pretended clergymen, whose career has been interrupted by the New York police, had his rooms and wardrobe dismantled so that he could appear in the capacity of minister, priest, or rabbi, as an applicant for his services.

Living near the Tennessee city of Memphis are seven sisters, whose names rhyme beautifully but do not scan. The names are Nancy Emeline, Lucinda, Caroline, Mary Heselton, Jane Palatine, Lulu Paradise, Virgie Valentine, and Mindy Adeline.

Edward Spohn and Miss Sieg, an engaged couple, were out driving at South Bend, in Indiana, when a large storehouse was blown into the street by a heavy wind. Miss Sieg was killed instantaneously, while Spohn died soon after.

William Vent, a Hamilton miner, was eating a piece of beef with a potato, when he suddenly dropped his fork and knife. In a few minutes the poor fellow was dead, choked by the food which he had too voraciously eaten.

"My first attempt at writing was—says Mr. Hardy, whose "Tees of D'Urberville" is now commanding so wide an interest—a wild sort of manuscript, which fell into the hands of John Morley and George Meredith, who both strongly recommended me to take up fiction."

Peter Fisher, of Crawfordsville, Indiana, became suddenly insane while the streets were thronged with people. Before he could be restrained, he had drawn a knife, slashed at several people, and caught Fred Schweitzer by the ear, severing it from his head at one stroke.

In the "Drapery Record" it is stated that although few failures took place last year in the wholesale drapery trade of London, retailers seem to have been rather unfortunate. The liabilities of those who have gone down are estimated at £2,000,000, and the net loss caused thereby is put at about one-half.

The watchman engaged at the sewer works in course of construction at Woburn-place was missed. A policeman, as a result, went to the pay-hut, where he found the man he was in quest of with a companion, apparently asleep over a coal fire. He was able to rouse one, but the watchman, Eric Davis, aged 64, was dead.

Mrs. Emma Needham, shortly after retiring to rest, left her bedroom and proceeded to the kitchen, where she took a bottle of laudanum, mixed by her husband for his horses, from the shelf, and drank a considerable quantity of the poison. Despite the unremitting attention of the doctor, the laudanum took fatal effect.

The Solicitor-general hopes that in the next session Parliament will pass a simple employers' liability bill, and a bill dealing with the question of fund transfer; also a sensible registration bill, the effect of which should be that every man qualified should easily get on the register, and that so long as he retained his qualification he should not easily be got off.

Mary Ann Lovejoy, who was employed in the laundry at Henley Workhouse, had during the dinner-hour clandestinely gone to the washhouse to remove some pocket-handkerchiefs she was washing for herself. While she was leaning on the draining-board beside the copper it gave way, and the unfortunate woman fell into the copper. She died a few hours later.

An assistant mistress is wanted for a school in Wiltshire for four months, and the munificent salary of £6 per week is offered. The authorities of an infant school in the neighbourhood of Greenwich are even more reckless. They are anxious to have the services of an ex-pupil-teacher, are prepared to spare no expense to secure an efficient one, and therefore offer no less than £17 10s. per annum.

George Brooks was charged at Worship-street Police Court with stealing jewellery from a shop window in Kingsland-road. The prisoner was with another man, and a youth who watched them saw the other man break the window with a brick. Brooks and his companion thrust in their hands and snatched up what they could. The prisoner was positively identified. He was remanded.

Among the jewels which Madame Alibani is reported to have lost from her hotel in Chicago recently, one of the most precious was a large emerald, surrounded by diamonds, the gift of the late Earl Dudley, 18 years ago, upon the occasion of Madame Alibani's first appearance in London. Other missing jewels are a catays set in diamonds,

presented to her by the Duke of Westminster, and three or four valuable rings.

At Fort Garry, Manitoba, can do Princes Mary of Teck is said to be a believer in palmistry.

Lord Randolph Churchill now admits that there is a great deal of gold in Manitoba. The trouble seems to be that the gold is likely to stop there.

The South Australian Government is endeavouring to make arrangements for extensive shipments of Colonial fruit produce to London.

Nature, we are told makes no mistakes. Ob, that there were one touch of nature about our meteorological prophet, our racing tasters, our detectives, our—well there, the last is inexpressible.

It is now asserted that Mrs. Langtry is 42—an age that few women under 50 will confess to. The Jersey Lily must have given it a profound secret to one of her dearest friends.

The French Chamber of Deputies, after an exciting debate, adopted a resolution calling for the prompt punishment of those answerable for the collapse of the Panama Canal scheme.

Major Candell's report to the Home Office on the explosion at Dublin Castle is believed to attribute the outrage to a nitro-allycerine bomb, designed to destroy an archway which supports the privy council chamber.

It is reported from Michigan that a man recently sold his wife for a matter of 700ds. at a distance, and without knowing the parties, it would be difficult to say which got the better of the bargain, the buyer or the seller—or the wife.

Betting was rife in Washington on the race for the American Speakership. Mr. W. T. Blackwell, of North Carolina, is said to have been one of the biggest winners. Blackwell had the sense to back the popular favourite, and not his own "fancy."

A gentleman named Foster died suddenly in Rotherham omnibus. Had it been in London omnibus—journeying, say, from Whitechapel to Hammersmith—we could better understand it. It would simply be a case of death from old age.

Straight and varied are the uses of advertisements. Among the "Wants" in a boot and shoe journal we notice: "Wanted, a good hand-stabber; also a girl to finish off." And again, "Wanted, active young who can cut legs."

The expenses incurred by the Conservative candidate, the Hon. Humphrey Sturt, who successfully contested East Dorset at the last election, were £1,190, while those of the Hon. George Glynn Paiva, the unsuccessful candidate, were £1,185.

Sir G. Baden-Powell, M.P., after giving an account of his mission to Bohemia Sea, at Liverpool, said that, at Lord Albury's request, he would leave for Washington on the 9th, both Governments having agreed upon the basis of arbitration upon the seal fisheries question.

The heir to £350,000 occupied free quarters at the police station at Wheeling, West Virginia, the other day, having applied there as a penniless tramp. He was informed of his good fortune two days later, and he immediately left Wheeling to take possession of his property in Cortland, New York.

Miss Murphy, who acted as housekeeper to Mr. Locke, of Ardaghmore House, Glasgow, met with a shocking death. When she was in bed a lamp overturned, and set fire to the clothes. She sprang up, and tried to escape from the room, but before reaching the door she fell, and was suffocated.

At the Jersey Assizes, William Woodcock, aged 19, a private in the 1st South Lancashire Regiment, now stationed on the island, was found guilty of a criminal assault on a married woman named Gallicher, and was sentenced by the chairman's casting vote to ten years' penal servitude.

The agitation set on foot some two months ago among the cabdrivers in Rome, owing to the concession granted by the municipality to some new tramway companies, has recommenced with increased vigour. A number of the cabmen have stopped work, and some been arrested for disorderly conduct.

The Duchess of Albany has been elected a member of a working committee appointed to arrange classes under the Surrey County Council Technical Education scheme, on such subjects as cookery, dressmaking, nursing, and laundry work, for the benefit of the village of Esher.

An interesting experiment is being made on some of the engines of the Great Eastern Railway Company to test the advantages of oil as fuel in the ordinary locomotives. Several of the engines have been supplied with oil tanks, and the firemen have the option of using the oil or the coal as they think fit. Experience has shown that the men prefer the oil. It requires less stoking, and produces a steadier body of steam.

At the West Ham Police Court, Thomas Booth, the landlord of the Essex Arms Drillery, 92, Victoria Dock-road, was summoned at the instance of the Inland Revenue authorities, for diluting certain beer and adding to the said beer a certain matter and thing (other than finings for the purpose of clarification), to wit, sugar. Mr. Baggally imposed a fine of £20 and £40s. costs.

One of Dr. Lauder Brunton's stories is that of a professor who was telling his students that he was able to discover this, that, and the other symptoms of internal disease from the teeth of a woman whose case was being diagnosed. She was very anxious to help in the business—rather too anxious, because, to the horror of the professor, she took her teeth out, saying, "Please, sir, I'll hand them round. Some of the gentlemen might like to look at them more closely."

The Emperor Francis Joseph, in dissolving the Hungarian Diet, expressed satisfaction that friendly relations existed with all other powers, and pointed to the alliances of that monarchy as affording the best guarantee for the preservation of peace. Having urged the necessity for extending the defensive power of the country, his Majesty said the new commercial treaties with Germany and Italy would strengthen the political alliance, and that thus they corresponded with the universal desire for peace.

The Commissioners of Sewers met lately an important experiment. Sometime ago it was decided to supply the civic artisans' dwellings in Stoneygate, Aldgate, with water from a deep artesian well. This has now been sunk to a depth of 500ft., at a cost of some £3,000, and all that remains to be done is to lay it on to the dwellings. The design is to combat the water monopoly which now exists, and if the corporation experiment succeeds, and the supply be good and sufficient, it will probably be offered to other citizens of London shortly on cheaper terms than prevail at present.

A New York correspondent says it is now certain that a cargo of breadstuffs will be sent to Russia to provide food for the famine-stricken population, there having been large contributions from the residents in nineteen States. The proposal is to send the *Constellation*, which carried a cargo for the Irish during their famine, avoed much popular sentimental interest, but it was deemed more practical to charter a vessel better adapted to the purpose. The Senate appropriated £100,000/dols. towards this project, according to President Harrison's suggestion. The gift will assume a national character by having one of the claimants to an estate in Aus-

tralia, amounting to nearly half a million of money.

"Bob" is the affectionate name by which Sir Frederick Roberts is known in the Army. The pin factories of the United States manufacture about 15,000,000 pins per year.

M. Gounod is said to be going blind through overwork, and his physicians give him no hope of recovery.

Mark Twain recently gave as his opinion that if the singing could be left out of Warner's operas it would be pretty music.

A young Canterbury man, named Baldwin, who was only out of work owing to his short-sightedness, ended his life by hanging himself.

A mob of about 100 armed men overpowered the sheriff at Live Oak, Florida, and, taking from the jail, two negroes suspected of murder, riddled them with bullets.

Mrs. Stanley remarked to an interviewer:—"I want my husband to write the story of his life and to stand for the House of Commons."

A young Leicester man named Kirk is at work at a Denistone colliery, when a large stone fell on his back, killing him instantly.

The greatest hop-producing county in the United States is said to be Oregon, N.Y., where the yield is estimated at 4,000,000 pounds annually.

The Mormon leaders in Salt Lake City propose to raise by popular subscription a fund of not less than £20,000/dols. for the purpose of erecting a statue of Brigham Young in bronze.

Killand, Norway's poet-novelist, is a candidate for the mayoralty of his native town, Stavanger, whose social and intellectual status and affairs he has ridiculed in his stories.

It is almost incredible that the average production of novels, tales, and other works of fiction during the past year was seventeen a week, or about four for every working day of the year.

Sir Edward Clarke is strongly in favour of a measure which will enable accused persons in criminal cases and their wives or husbands, as the case may be, to give evidence of their death.

Princess Victoria of Teck has chosen a charming way of thanking her many friends for their congratulations on her betrothal by sending New Year's cards, with a few words of thanks and good wishes for the new year.

At the time of the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832 there were 70 handloom weavers in the old burgh of Irvine; now there are only four plying their calling. There is not now a weaver on the register of voters.

The total annual cost of maintaining the streets and pavements of Paris exceeds 20,000 francs. The work of keeping the streets clean alone costs 6,000,000 francs, or about 18,000 francs per day.

The man named John Brown, who obtained a dispensation from a young woman on the pretence of directing her to the early door of the Marylebone Theatre, and then sent her to the kitchen of a common lodging-house, was sent to gaol from the Marylebone Police Court for three months.

When the elder Pitt accepted a purse, some time, not having heard of the circumstances, but noting his absence from the Commons, asked Lord Chesterfield what had become of the great commoner. "Ah," replied Chesterfield, "he has had a fall upstairs."

They say that palmistry is the only reliable way of reading character. To tell a young man's character, the proper way is to look at the palms of his hands. If the lines do not form a written capital 'M' he may safely be adjudged "wanting in moral principle."

Palmistry is a thing that every young lady should cultivate.

Edith Bass, aged 17, a pupil teacher, of Sittingbourne, was indicted at the East Kent Quarter Sessions for attempting to commit suicide by throwing herself down a well, in which she remained several hours waist high in water before being rescued. She was discharged with a caution.

It is stated that among the numerous changes at the Colonial Office, consequent on the retirement of Sir Robert Herbert from the permanent secretaryship, is the promotion of Mr. C. P. Lucas, the late permanent secretary's private secretary, to a first-class clerkship.

The Egyptian Government has decided to telegraph to Europe to an English, a French, and a German engineer, inviting them to come to Cairo on February 5th as a commission for studying the projects for the drainage of the city. Their stay will be six weeks, and their remuneration £200.

The Stockton Town Council, by twenty-one votes to six, decided to open the Free Library news-room from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. In order to avoid the employment of Sunday labour, several councillors offered to form a rota among themselves to discharge the necessary duties. A suggestion to oblige the library to open on Sundays was referred to the Free Library Committee.

On Tuesday, at Sandgate, Captain Smythies, on behalf of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, presented Coastguardsmen Heeney and Sadler with the silver medal of the society for gallant services rendered as first and second coxswains of the Hythe lifeboat, while rescuing seventeen of the crew of the *Benvenue* during the gale of Nov. 11.

Next season a bill will be promoted in Parliament for the formation of a new company, under the title of "The London, Tottenham, and Epping Forest Railway," with power to construct a line from Whitecross-street in the City to Waltham Abbey, passing through Tottenham and Walthamstow. The capital is put at £25,000,000, in shares of £10 each, and by borrowing powers to the amount of £1,200,000.

Two young men, named Ross and McLean, were shooting on Bradstone Farm, near Ruthven, Forfarshire, when one of the guns exploded, killing McLean on the spot, and terribly shattering the lower part of Ross's face. Ross was led to walk to the farm-house half a mile distant, but was unable to explain how the accident occurred.

Mr. G. F. Gatliffe, Exeter chairman of the Institute of Journalists' Orphanage Fund, expressing the pleasure with which he had heard of the movement for providing for the orphans of working journalists, and asking to be allowed to become a donor to the fund for the amount of a cheque which he enclosed.

The Commander-in-Chief has given permission, as an experiment, for malt liquors to be sold in the canteens of cavalry regiments for a short time before midday stables on week-days and before stables after the men return from field-duty. Colonels are to report their opinion of the experiment six months hence.

Dr. Lauder Brunton tells this story:—Once a whole class of students stood round a man whose heart was diseased and who had one of the pupils of his eyes enormously dilated. After many learned opinions had been given as to how the faulty heart dilated the pupil the man upset the couch by casually observing that the eye was a glass one.

As the 83 London, Chatham, and Dover train from Victoria was entering King's Cross Station on Tuesday evening, the last five carriages left the line and narrowly escaped coming into collision with the buttress of the bridge which crosses the line at that point. The train was crowded at the time, and the occupants of the five carriages were much shaken and alarmed, but no one was injured. All traffic on the up line was stopped for several hours.

The Orient Company announce the resumption of their pleasure cruises, and the steamer *Lusitania*, of 3,575 tons register and 4,000 horse-power, will leave London on the 23rd of February for a cruise of eight weeks, visiting Cadiz, Tangier, Malaga, Nice, Syracuse, Malta, Cyprus, Beyrouth, Jaffa, Alexandria, Malta and Gibraltar. The *Chimborazo* will leave London on the 20th of March for a forty-four days' cruise to Sicily, Greece, Constantinople, &c.

Mr. Hicks Beach presided at the Commercial Travellers' dinner at Bristol. He remarked that in these days of protectionist tariff, there was, perhaps, no class more use







## SPORTS OF THE PEOPLE.

(The Events of the Week up to Wednesday.  
Night will be found in "Larry Lynn's". Article.)

## ENTRIES FOR THE SPRING

## HANDBICAPS.

**THE LINCOLNSHIRE HANDBICAP** (One mile, 22 fms.).—The Wharp, Syria; Duxie, 1; Verbois, 4; Melody, 4; Lord George, 6; Walslester, 4; Trapizoid, 4; Coronado, 5; Blenheim, 3; Hinton, 4; Prince, 4; Ammonite, 4; Alcante, 3; Humphrey, 1; Prince, 4; Hampton, 4; Coniston, 4; Cheshire, 3; Brach, 4; Gloucester, 4; St. Albans, 4; Athelstane, 4; Wokington, 6; Sandringham, 5; Title Tattle, 4; Eustakilene, 4; Wies, 4; A. Curzon, 4; Unicorn, 4; Comedy, 1; Little Boy, 4; Justice, 6; Euclid, 1; L'Abbe Morin, 5; Arise, 4; Huntingdon, 3; Tom, 3; Durie, 4; Sir, 4; Father Confessor, 4; Ambrose, 4; Duxie, 6; Lord Henry, 4; Acme, 4; Wimsey, 4; Kentigern, 4; Queen, 4; Cardinal, 3; Alice, 5; King Belmont, 4; Friday, 4; Ordinance, 4; Coratophine, 4; Belmont, 4; Devereux, 5; Springtime, 4; Old Boots, 4; Sheldrake, 4; Ideldeigh, 6; Lady Rosebery, 4; Eyreton, 4; Hastings, 3; Versilia, 4.

**JOCKEYS' LICENSES.**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**  
The Stewards of the Jockey Club have withdrawn the notice published in the "Calendar" of July 2nd, 1891, warning Thomas Joseph Calder and Thomas Lakes off the racecourse and hosts at Newmarket.

## M.R. LAWRENCE IRVING ACCIDENTALLY SHOT:

At Belfast, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Lawrence Irving second son of the eminent actor, was accidentally shot in his rooms at Belfast, where he was staying as a member of Mr. Benson's Shakespearean and Old English Company. Between five and six o'clock he returned from rehearsing the part of Lorenzo, which he was to have taken in the "Merchant of Venice," and had, it appears, just passed at the corner of the street from Mr. Benson and several other members of the company, Mr. Hippisley, a fellow member, lodges with Mr. Irving, and both went to their apartments, chatting freely along the street. Arrived at their residence, it was decided that they should continue study of their parts until ten was ready. With this object Mr. Hippisley remained in the drawing-room, while Mr. Irving proceeded upstairs. He had, it seems, been only five minutes gone when a loud report was heard, and on Mr. Hippisley rushing upstairs he found the unfortunate gentleman writhing in agony on the bed. Seeing the revolver on the floor, and blood flowing from

**A WOUND IN THE RIGHT BREAST.**  
He called for help, which was immediately forthcoming. A daughter of the landlord was despatched for medical aid, while Mr. Hippisley did what he could to staunch the wound. Drs. O'Connell and Sinclair, and Surgeon Fagan arrived in the course of a few minutes, and to this circumstance is due the fact that Mr. Irving is alive. The bullet made a clean passage through the clothing, and entered the chest near the centre of the right breast, passing through the lung, finally lodging somewhere in the muscles of the back, where it remains embedded, the doctors, after consultation, deciding that it would be unsafe, at present, to probe for it. The revolver, which is of small size, is six-chambered, and of foreign make, and when picked up all the chambers but one were found charged. On the table was a copy of "The Spectre Bride," and it is presumed that he had been studying it. His habit, it appears, was to read a passage and committing it to memory, and it is concluded that while so engaged he picked up the revolver from a shelf near his bed, and that while unthinkingly toying with it the weapon went off. This is Mr. Benson's view, based on his knowledge of the fact that Mr. Irving is extremely absent-minded. Mr. Irving, it is further stated, has travelled a good deal abroad, especially in Russia, and as a consequence

ALWAYS CARRIED A REVOLVER  
with him, and was perfectly conversant with its mechanism. Very soon after the regrettable occurrence a messenger was sent for Mr. Benson, and that gentleman at once gave instructions that no effort, so far as that medical assistance was concerned, should be spared to save the unfortunate ventriloquist's life. He also telegraphed at once to Mr. Henry Irving at the Lyceum, and several messages passed; one of those sent from London being that Mr. Irving's mother had left for Belfast to nurse her son. Mr. Lawrence, as he was known to the members of the company, has been a great favourite with them, not only on account of his cheerfulness, but by reason of his unassuming manners. When the intelligence reached Mr. Irving the performance of Henry VIII. at the Lyceum Theatre had been commenced. A reassuring telegram from the doctor in attendance on Mr. Lawrence Irving being received to the effect that the patient was going on favourably, Mr. Henry Irving proceeded with his impersonation of Cardinal Wolsey, even the officials of the theatre being unaware of the sad occurrence. Mr. Irving's son was playing at the moment in Mr. Sydney Grundy's play, "A Fool's Paradise," at the Garrick Theatre, where the intelligence was conveyed to him by Mr. Barnet Stoker, Mr. Irving's private secretary.

On Friday night Mr. Irving was reported to be progressing favourably. It was believed that he was out of danger. His mother had gone to nurse him.

The latest bulletin states that no effort will be made to extract the bullet, as it touches no vital part.

## THE PELICAN CLUB.

At the Court of Bankruptcy on Thursday, before Mr. Wildy, official receiver, the adjourned meeting of creditors of Mr. A. E. Wells was held.—The debtor had carried on business at the Pelican Club, Gerrard-street, Soho, and the Eccentric Club, Denmark-street, Piccadilly. He had also formerly conducted a commission agency, in connection with racing, in Warford-court, Throgmorton-street. The statement of affairs showed gross liabilities £45,331, and an estimated surplus in assets of £2,941.—Mr. Nanson attended the meeting on behalf of the debtor, and submitted a scheme which provided for vesting the property in a trustee or trustees, and withdrawing the claim to the amount of at least £23,000.—Mr. Cross and Mr. Greenwood represented creditors.—On the votes being taken, it was found that the scheme was not entertained by the necessary majority of creditors, and a resolution for bankruptcy was thereupon passed. Messrs. Nanson and Collins, accountants, were appointed joint trustees of the estate.

## EARL SPENCER AS A FIREMAN.

A fire which occurred at Great Brington Rectory, Northamptonshire, the residence of Mr. Morley, Earl Spencer's estate agent, on Thursday, was attended by the fire engine and brigade from Althorp House, under the personal superintendence of Earl Spencer.

They reached the fire about 3 in the morning,

and so ably coped with the flames that when the engine from Haddon arrived its services were not required. Earl Spencer returned to Althorp with his engine and men at 6 in the morning.

## NAVAL OPERATIONS ON THE RIVER GAMBIA.

The Press Association states that a telegram has been received at the Admiralty from Commander Royle, H.M.S. Racer, dated Bathurst, River Gambia, 6th inst., reporting that a naval brigade under his command landed and made a night attack on the marauding chief, Foye Cabba, at Mange. His town was destroyed, but he managed to escape in the darkness. The only casualty on the British side was Private Frank Johnson, R.M.L.I., severely wounded, but was

detained in the evening by 350 points, but was

detained in the evening by 400 points.

**J. NORTH V. C. DAWSON FOR £100.**

The above famous players commenced a return sport match of 200 points, North against South, on Thursday, 25th January, at the Westminster Aquarium on Monday, 29th January. Both men played finely during the earlier

stage, and up to Thursday night the game had carried

the following figures—Dawson, 10,000; North, 8,800.

The chief break of the day was 225, 11, and 25 to

North, 153, 183, and 25 to Dawson. On Friday, Dawson was suffering from a severe cold, but he played up gallantly well, and during the day broke 100, 125, and 151. At the adjournment the totals stood at—Dawson, 11,251; North, 7,722.

T. TAYLOR V. D. RICHARDSON.

During the week these professionals have been engaged in the Egyptian Hall in a series of spot-games of 700 up level. Resuming on Thursday afternoon, Richardson, with two games, 100 and another, was beaten by no fewer than 465 points. Taylor, 5; Ammonite, 6; Alcante, 3; Humphrey, 1; Prince, 4; Hampton, 4; Coniston, 4; Cheshire, 3; Brach, 4; Gloucester, 4; Sandringham, 4; Athelstane, 4; Wokington, 6; Sandringham, 5; Title Tattle, 4; Eustakilene, 4; Wies, 4; A. Curzon, 4; Unicorn, 4; Comedy, 1; Little Boy, 4; Justice, 6; Euclid, 1; L'Abbe Morin, 5; Arise, 4; Huntingdon, 3; Tom, 3; Durie, 4; Sir, 4; Father Confessor, 4; Ambrose, 4; Duxie, 6; Lord Henry, 4; Acme, 4; Wimsey, 4; Kentigern, 4; Queen, 4; Cardinal, 3; Alice, 5; King Belmont, 4; Friday, 4; Ordinance, 4; Coratophine, 4; Belmont, 4; Devereux, 5; Springtime, 4; Old Boots, 4; Sheldrake, 4; Ideldeigh, 6; Lady Rosebery, 4; Eyreton, 4; Hastings, 3; Versilia, 4.

**THE ROYAL WEDDING.**

According to a Windsor correspondent,

orders have been received at the Lord Chamberlain's department to prepare all available rooms in Windsor Castle, as well as those at Frogmore House and the Cottage, for her Majesty's guests attending the marriage of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale and Princess Victoria of Teck. The houses and other houses in the royal borough have already been engaged. In regard to the wedding gift by the ladies of England to Princess Victoria of Teck, we are asked to state that, although £200 is the highest amount of individual subscriptions, yet the total contributions will be welcomed by the honorary secretaries—the Hon. Mrs. C. Eliot, 8; Onslow Gardens, S.W.; and the Hon. Mrs. B. Mallett, 9; Alexander-square. The first meeting of the committee will take place on Monday, the 18th inst., at 3 o'clock p.m., at Grosvenor-square. The citizens of York have subscribed over £200 for a wedding present to the Duke of Clarence and Avondale and Princess Victoria Mary. Committees of English ladies are being formed at Epsom and Florence to promote a wedding present to the princess. In most of the English towns, too, steps are being taken with the view of presenting addresses and other suitable gifts on the occasion of the royal wedding. It is arranged that the corporation of Edinburgh shall celebrate the wedding of the Duke of Clarence with Princess Victoria of Teck by providing a dinner for 6,000 poor people and presenting the princess with a gift, the nature of which has not yet been decided. A general holiday will be declared and the city will be illuminated. A great bonfire will be lighted on Arthur's seat, which will form one of a series of fires from various hills illuminating the whole of the east coast of Scotland beyond Edinburgh.

**MEETING OF SURREY MAGISTRATES.**

A largely attended meeting of the Surrey

Magistrates was held at the Sessions House, Newington Causeway, under the presidency of the chairman (Mr. E. L. Penrhyn). The

chairman moved, "That this court desire to

place on record the extreme satisfaction with

which it has heard of the proposed union between the Duke of Clarence and Avondale

and the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, a

resident in this country. The court rejoices

in this truly English marriage, so well calcu-

lated to promote the prosperity of the

country, and it hopes that her Majesty the

Queen and the illustrious parents of the

bride and bridegroom may long be spared to

witness the happy and useful lives

which it trusts will be led by the

married couple." In submitting the proposition, the chairman said the contemplated royal alliance had been received with perfect satisfaction throughout the country, a fact due in the main to its character as a thoroughly English one. He admired the shrewd tact and feeling which had induced the Prince of Wales to favour the betrothal of his children with their countrymen and

countrywomen. He hoped that the three

canal commissioners would be moved to the

shrewdest detectives in the city placed at

his service. He attended the meeting of the

National League Convention and had the

most threatening speeches reported verbatim

and sent to the consul. He also identified himself, according to statements made in local Irish circles, with a physical force

new organisation, which held a

secret meeting one night during the con-

vention, and resolved to begin a dynamite

campaign in Ireland. "Philips," as the

Irishman styled himself, was not present

at this meeting, but he had its purport so

as to notify Scotland Yard that danger

was threatened. He left Chicago about a month ago.

## RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR LONDON BRIDGE STATION.

## THE DUBLIN EXPLOSION.

## MAJOR CUNDALL'S REPORT.

As the 2.35 p.m. train from Hastings was approaching the railway bridge across the

Thames on Thursday afternoon, and was

passing over the Borough Market Junction,

the carriage immediately behind the guard's

brake van, owing to some unexplained cause,

left the rails and toppled over on to the

permanent way. Several other carriages im-

mediately behind also left the rails, and

coming again, the parapet of the bridge

over York-place knocked away a portion of

the structure, rendering traffic below in the

street so dangerous that a police cordon

was drawn across to block the traffic,

the pavement being covered with about a ton

of the fallen brickwork. Some platelayers

who were working on the line, seeing the

train approaching, stepped out of its way,

but one man named Haylock, who was stand-

ing in the air-space between the metals, was

crushed to death in a horrible manner by the

fallen carriage. It is said that Haylock was

a married man, and only buried his wife last

week. The officials at Cannon-street Station

refused to give any information as to either

the cause of the accident or the names or

number of the injured, but we were able to

learn that the dead was injured in the

train, and that the accident had been de-

scribed as a "head-on collision."

Major Cundall, chief secretary at the castle,

had just issued a copy of the report to

the Home Office on Monday morning, and

the same afternoon a copy was despatched to

Mr. Jackson, chief secretary, at the castle. This

report will not at present be made public;

but it is highly probable that a summary

of it will at no distant date be issued. All

the officials at Dublin Castle are extremely

anxious to take their profits. From a

speculative standpoint, it is just as well that

this process should be going on. The account

for the rise has latterly assumed rather

dangerous magnitudes, and had fresh buying

added to outstanding commitments before

they were reduced, any outward event would

have played the very mischief. As matters now

stand, we are safeguarded against that peril;

but the new purchases include a good many

for investment, and thus serve to uphold

prices by taking stock of the markets. The

one unfavourable feature in the situation is